

Witch

Will

Irma

Taranee

Gernell

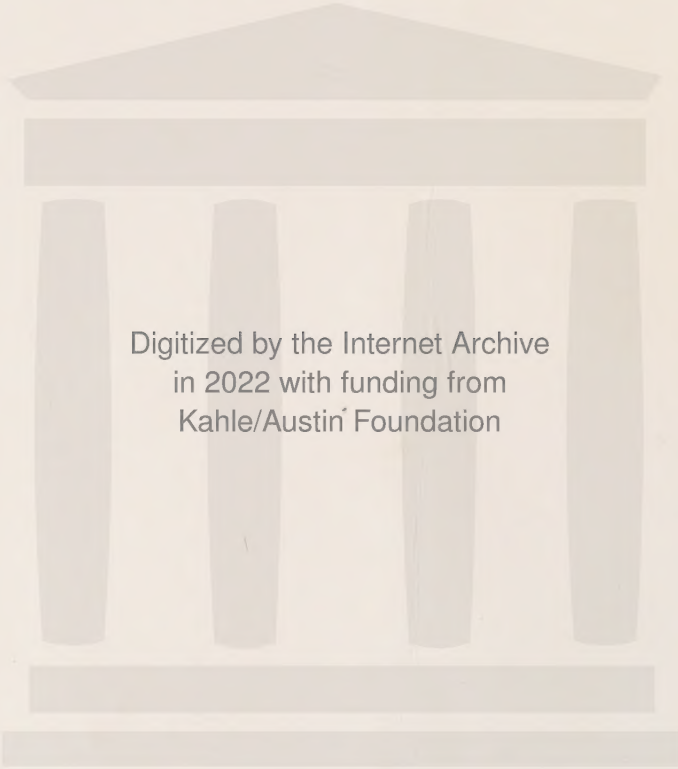
May Lin



Part IV
Trial of the Oracle
Volume 2



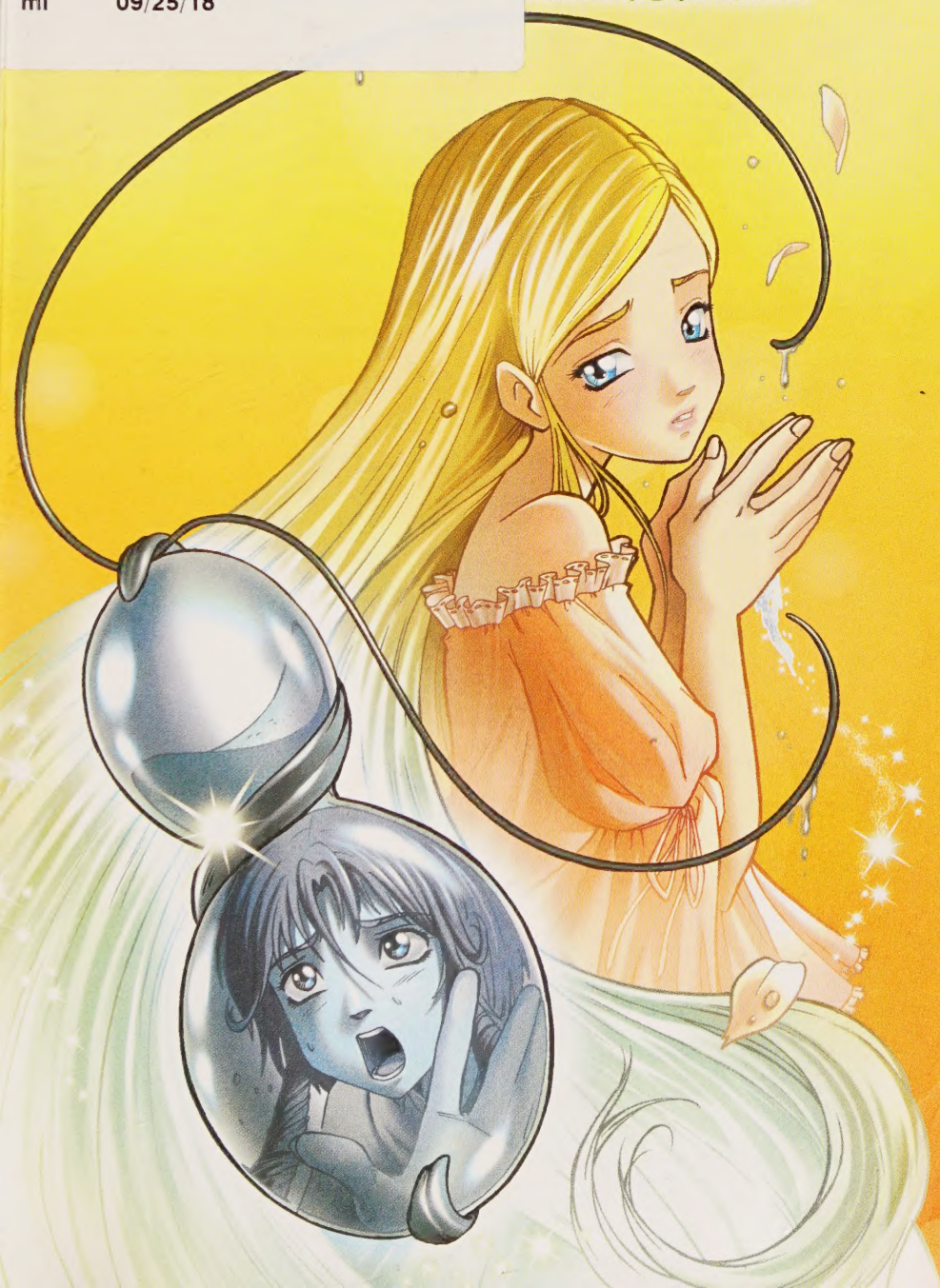
THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

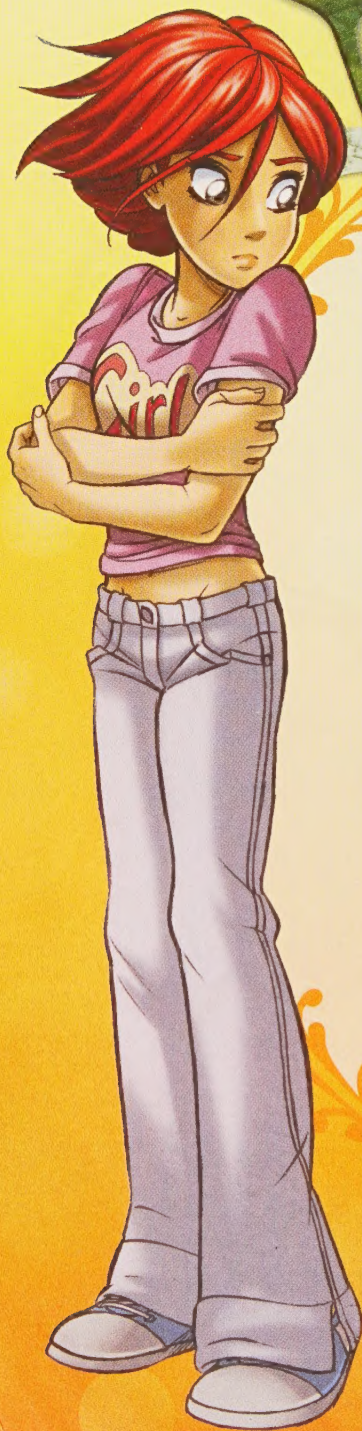


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Gnone, Elisabetta, 1965-
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Part IV.
Trial of the Oracle
Volume 2





Witch

Will Irma Taranea Cornelia May Lin

Part IV
Trial of the Oracle
Volume 2

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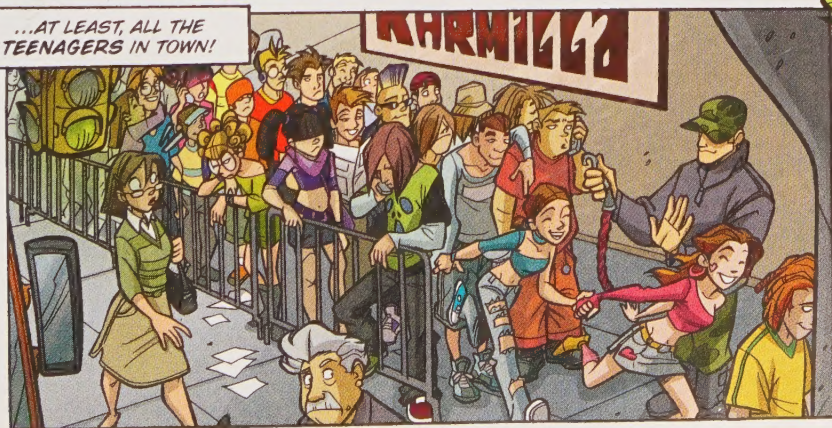
The Whole Truth

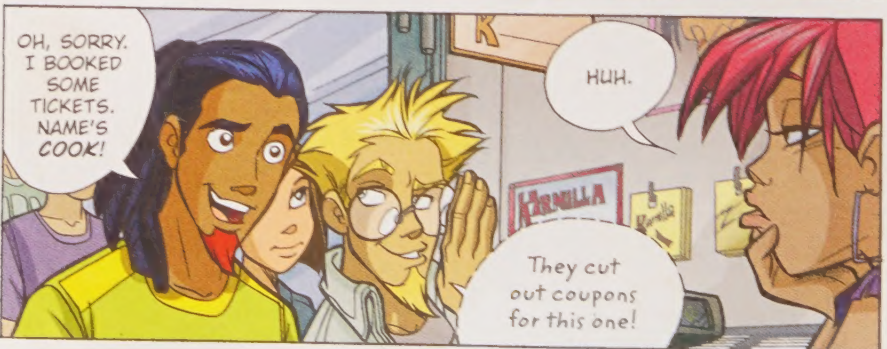
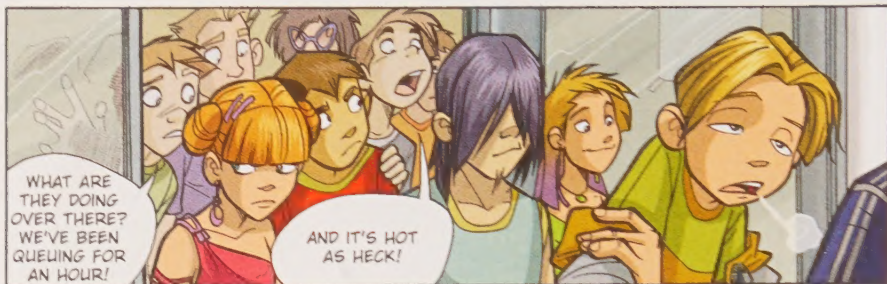
"I'm the Custodian of the Heart,
and I was found out!"

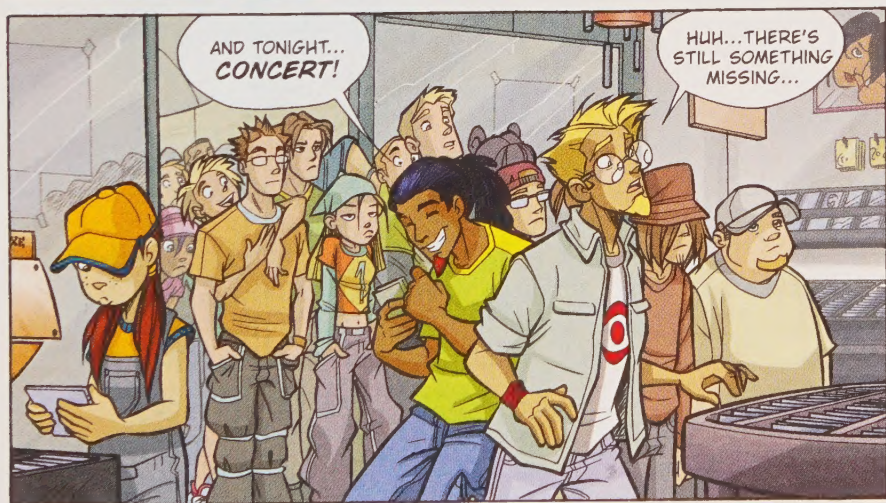
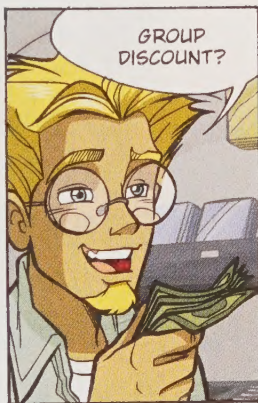
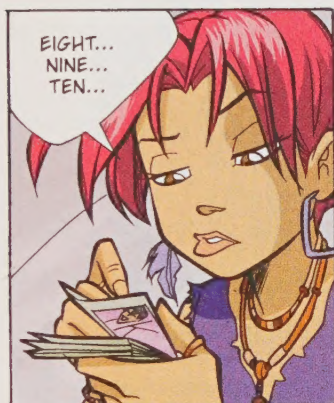


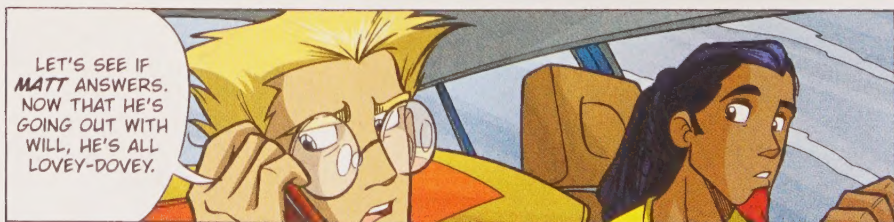


...AT LEAST, ALL THE
TEENAGERS IN TOWN!

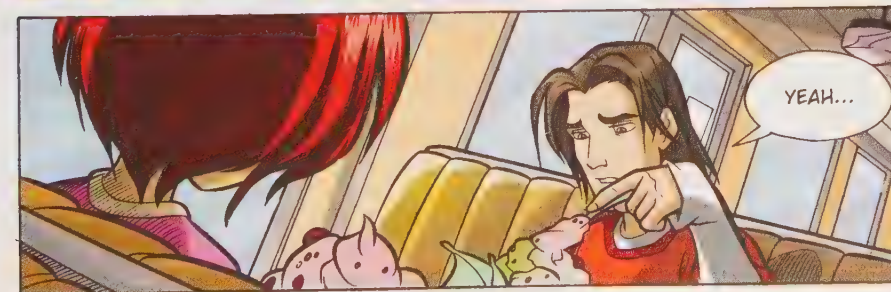
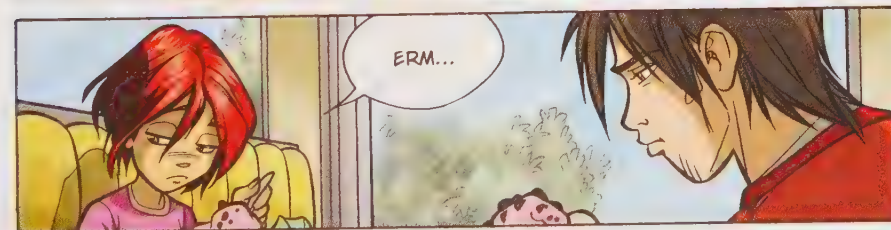
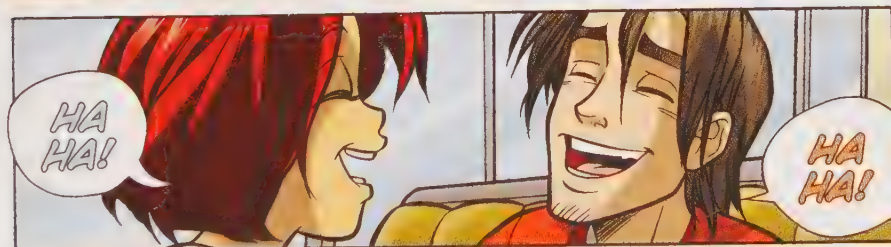
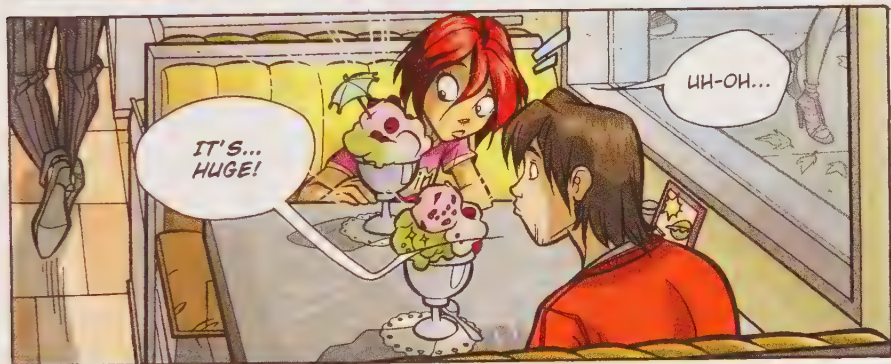
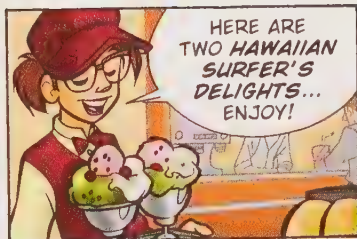
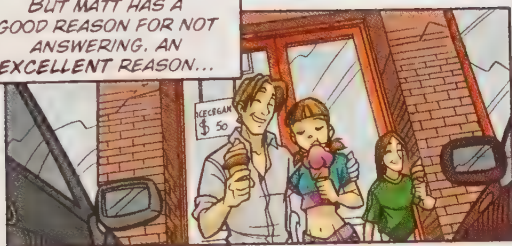


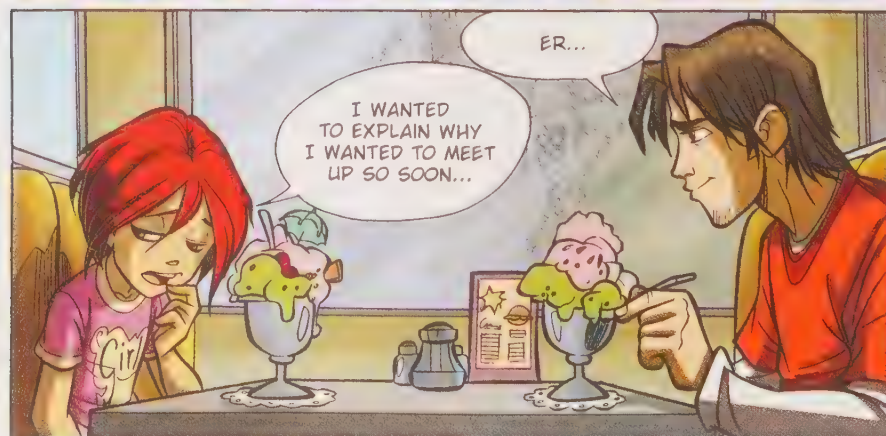
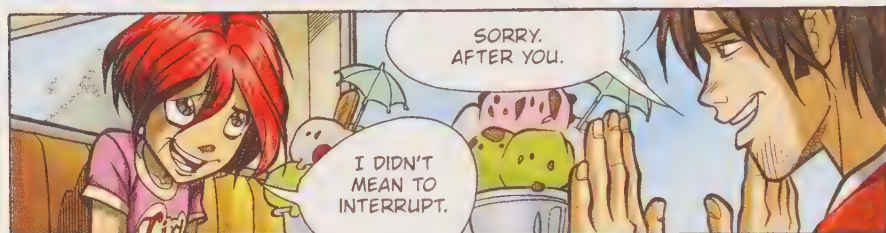
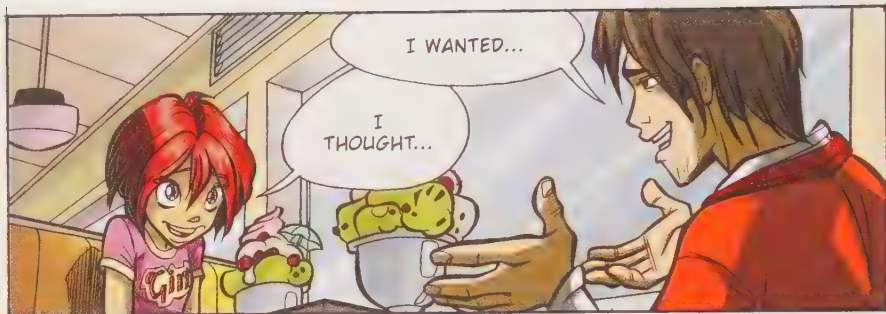


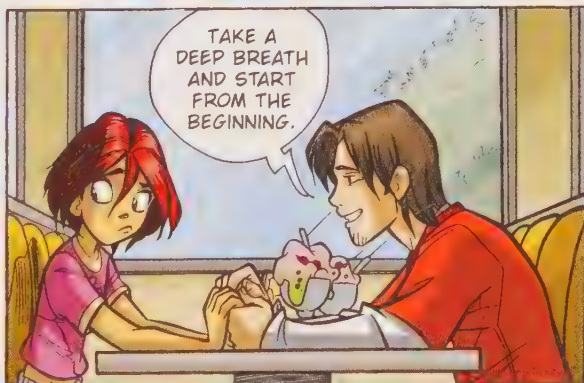
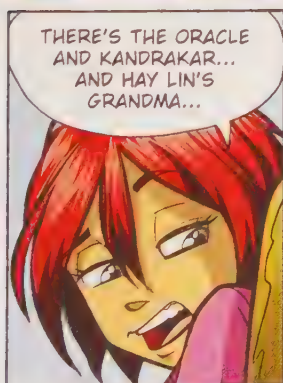
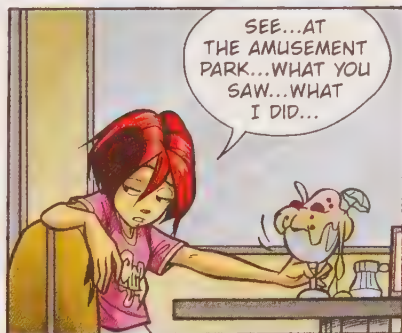
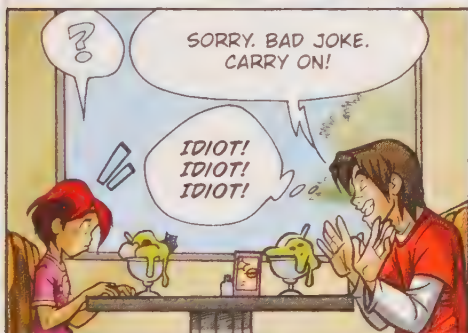




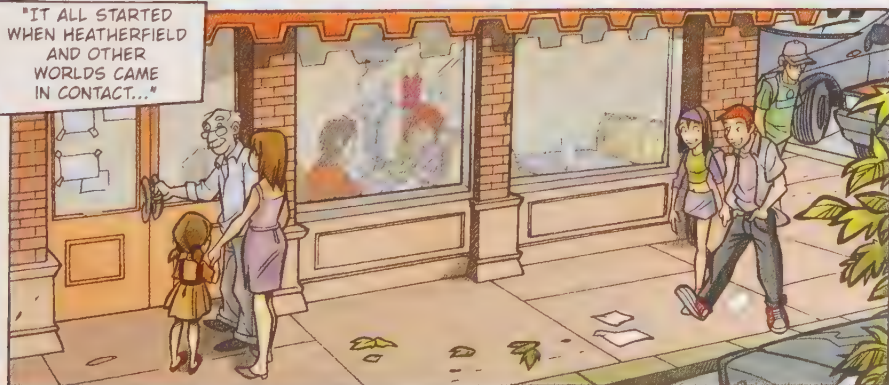
BUT MATT HAS A
GOOD REASON FOR NOT
ANSWERING. AN
EXCELLENT REASON...







"IT ALL STARTED WHEN HEATHERFIELD AND OTHER WORLDS CAME IN CONTACT..."



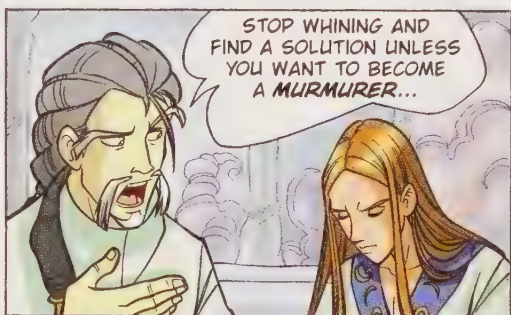
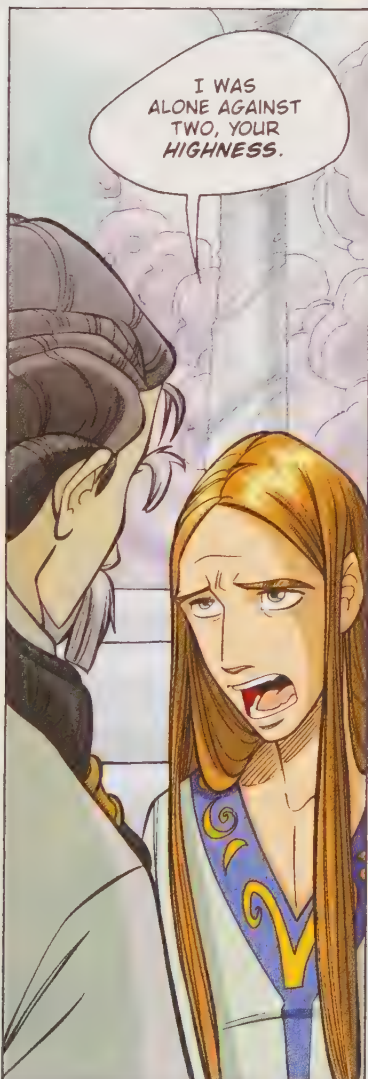
"KANDRAKAR WATCHES
OVER THEM FROM THE
EXACT CENTER OF
INFINITY..."

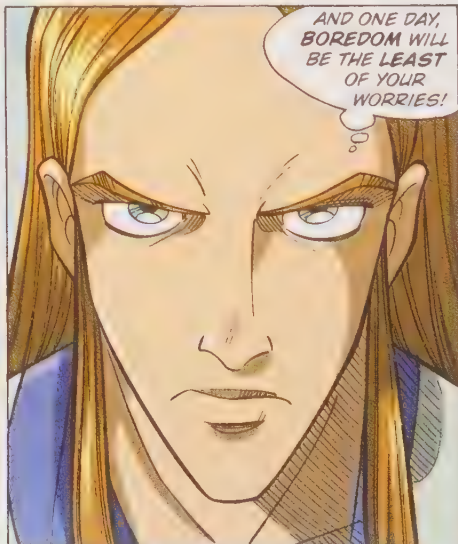
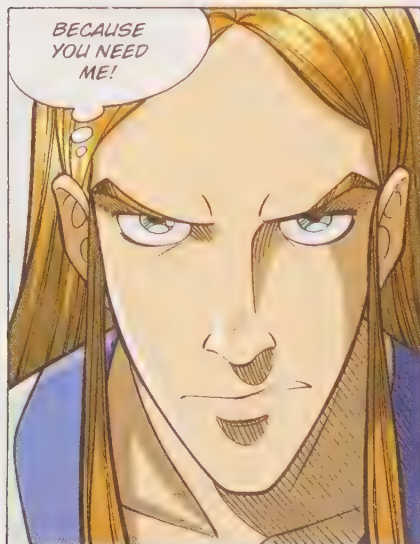
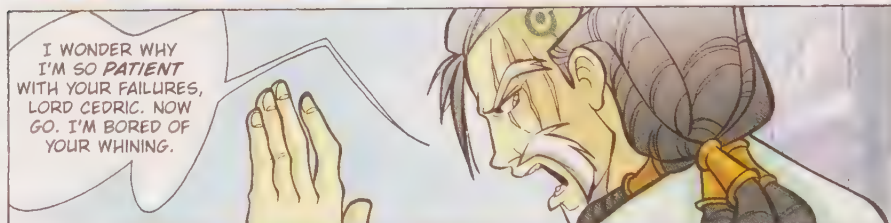
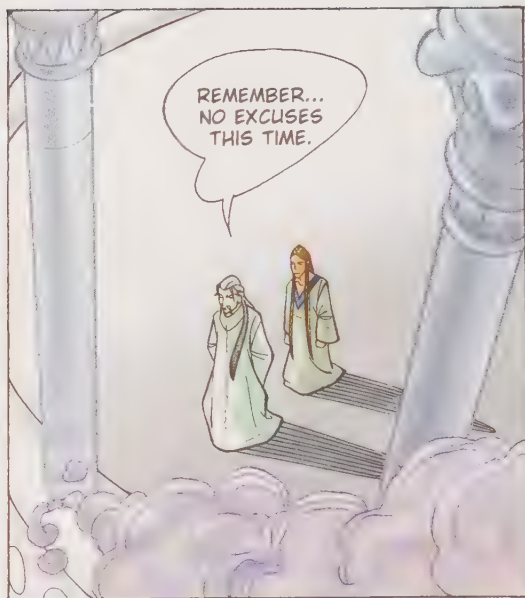
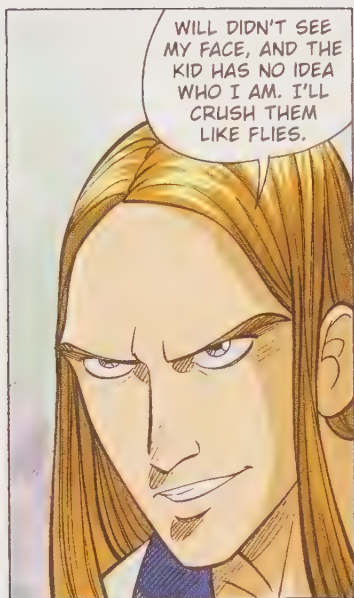
THAT
STUPID KID
TOOK MY JEWEL
FROM ME...

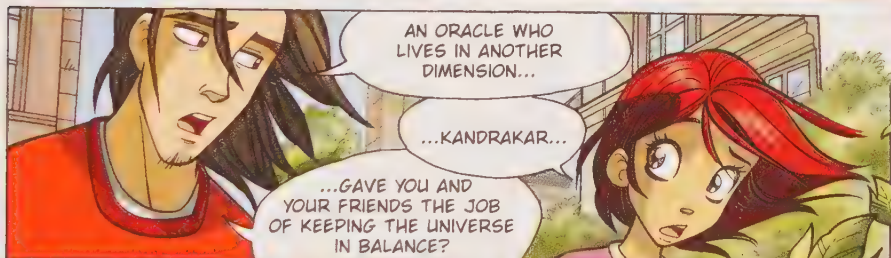
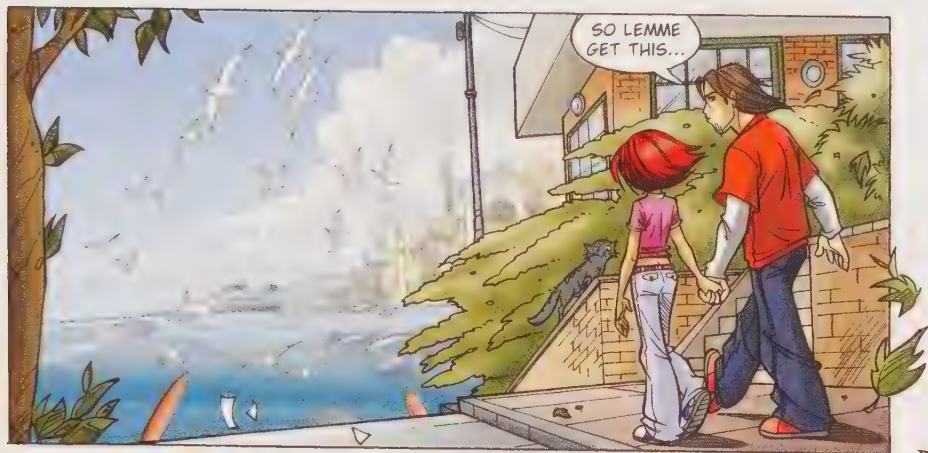
THE GUARDIAN
WAS OUT COLD.
EVERYTHING
WAS GOING
PERFECTLY.
THE HEART
WAS IN MY
HANDS...

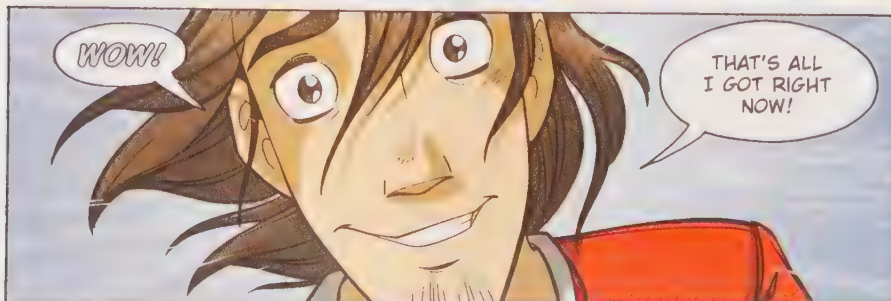
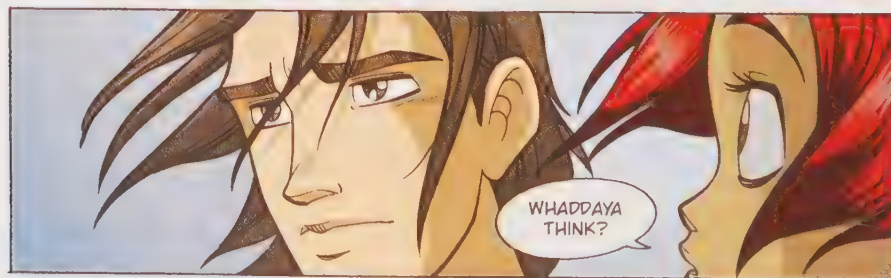
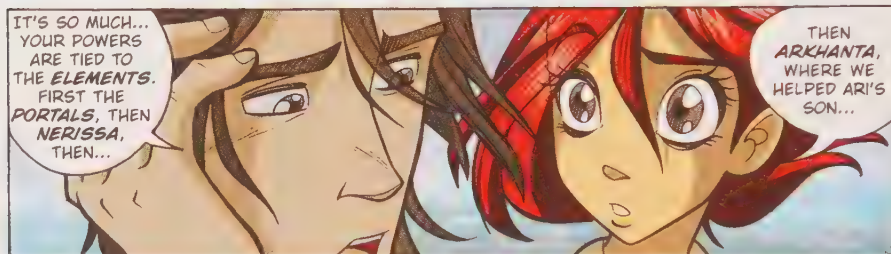
...BUT THAT
STUPID BOY
BUTTED IN!

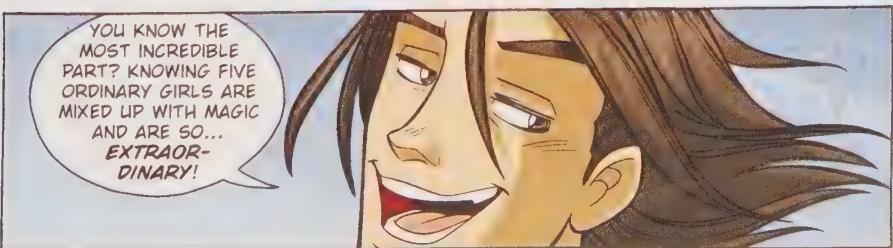
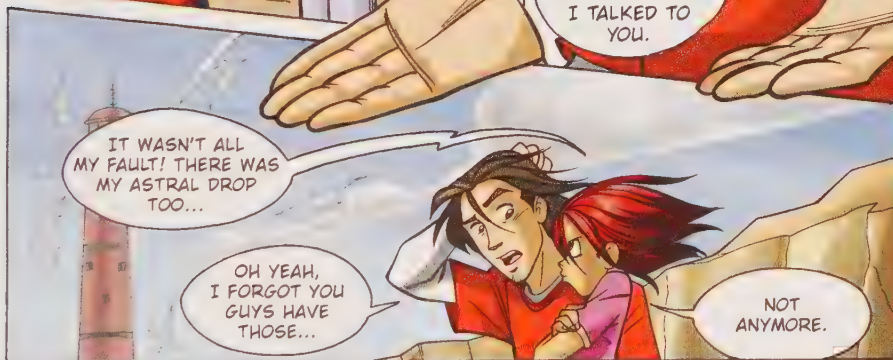
MY LORD?

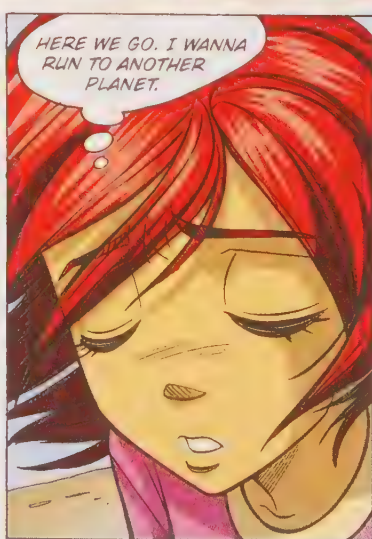
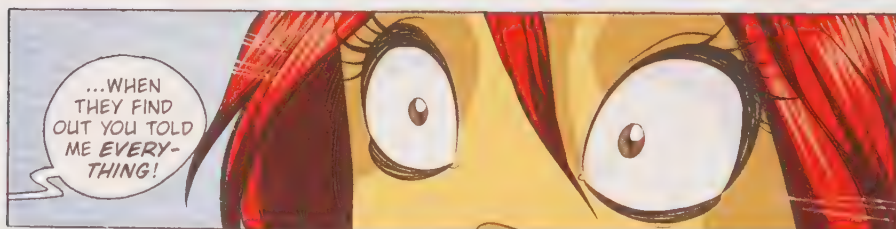


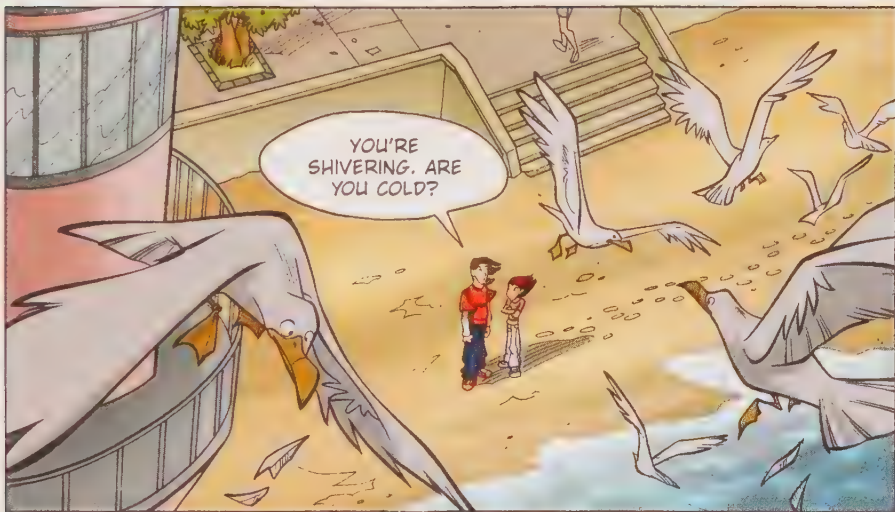










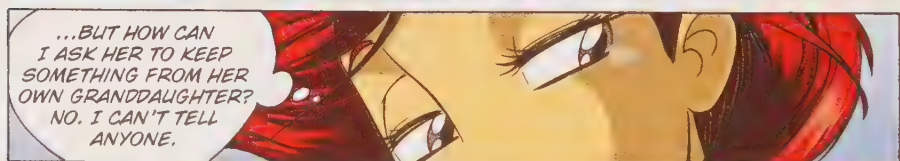




OKAY, WILL. YOU CAN TRUST ME. I'LL KEEP YOUR SECRET.



THE ORACLE IS JUST WAITING FOR US TO MAKE A MISTAKE. THE ONLY PERSON I COULD ASK FOR ADVICE IS YAN LIN...

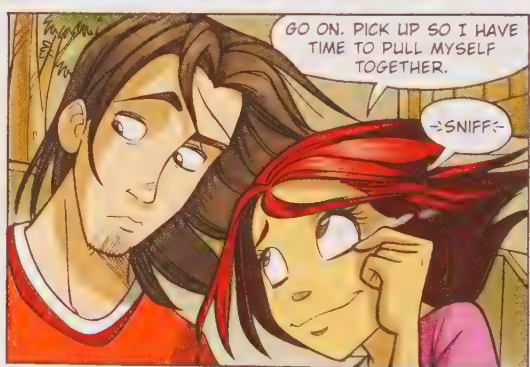


...BUT HOW CAN I ASK HER TO KEEP SOMETHING FROM HER OWN GRANDDAUGHTER? NO. I CAN'T TELL ANYONE.



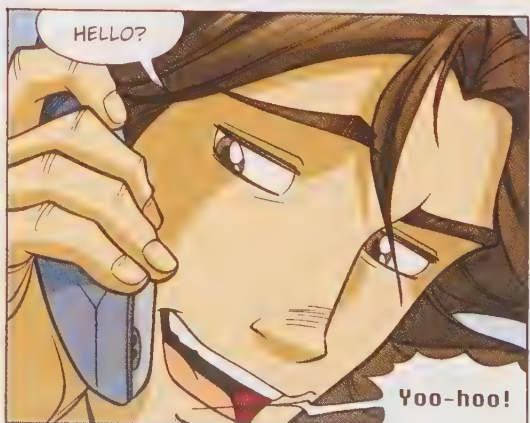
YOU OKAY?

SORRY. I DIDN'T MEAN TO CRY...



GO ON. PICK UP SO I HAVE TIME TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER.

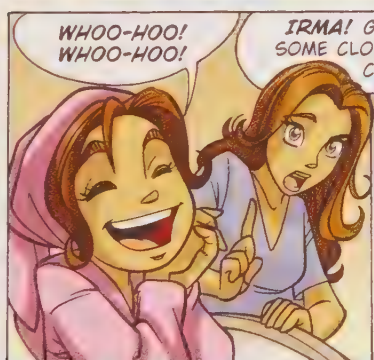
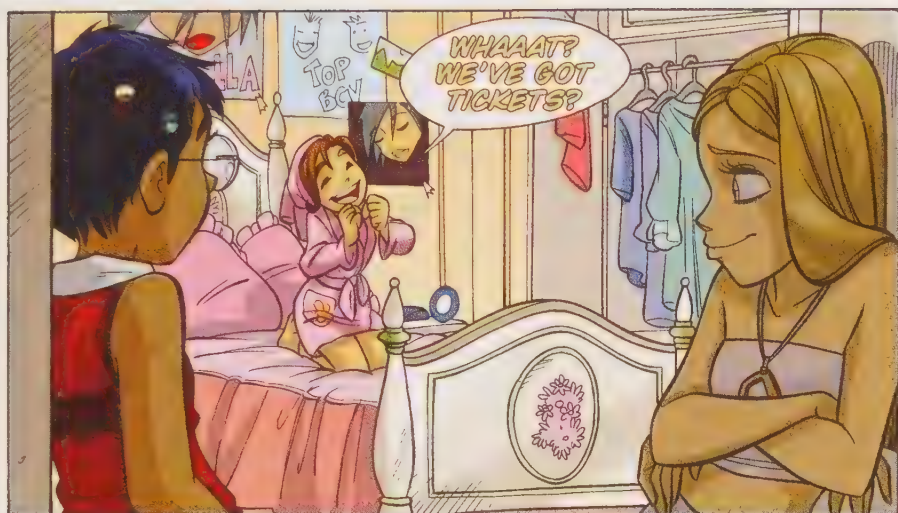
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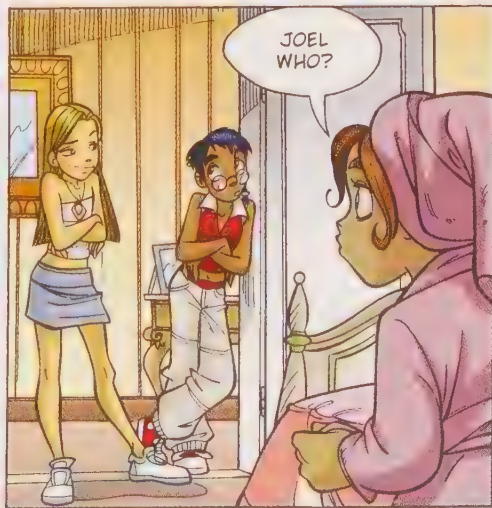
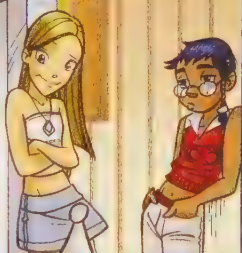
HELLO?

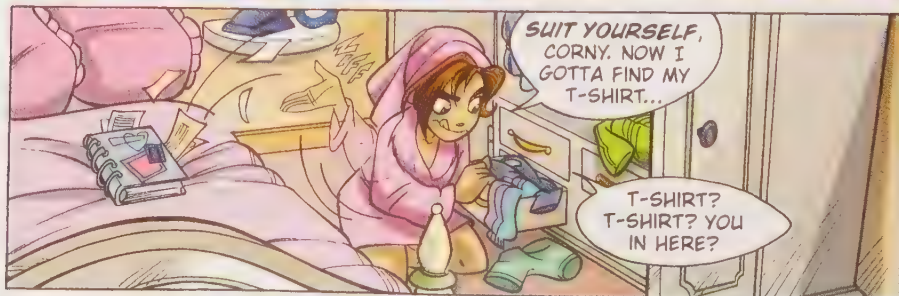
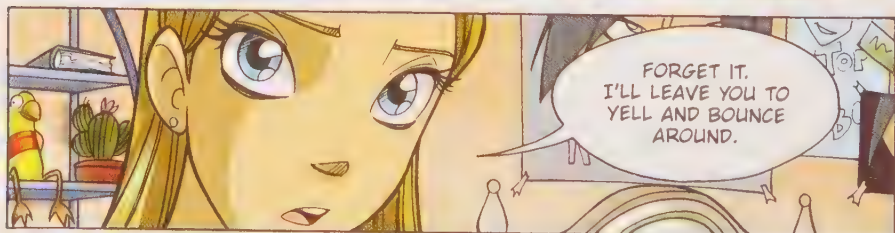
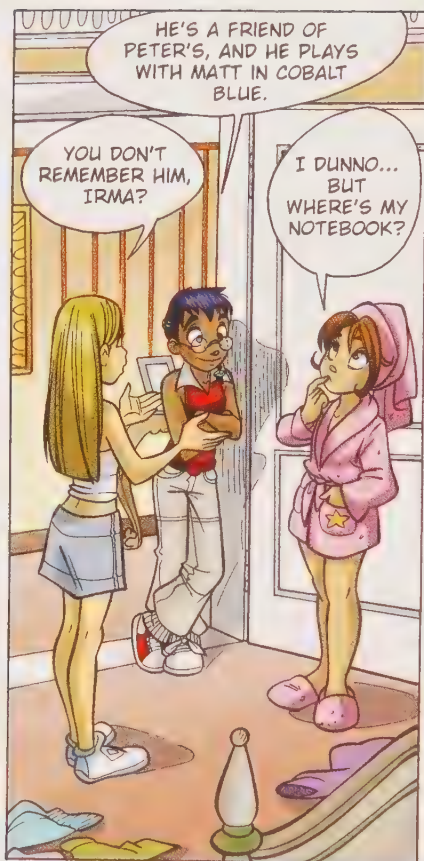
Yoo-hoo!

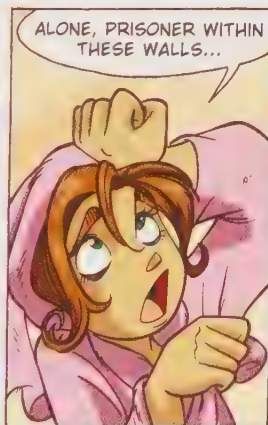
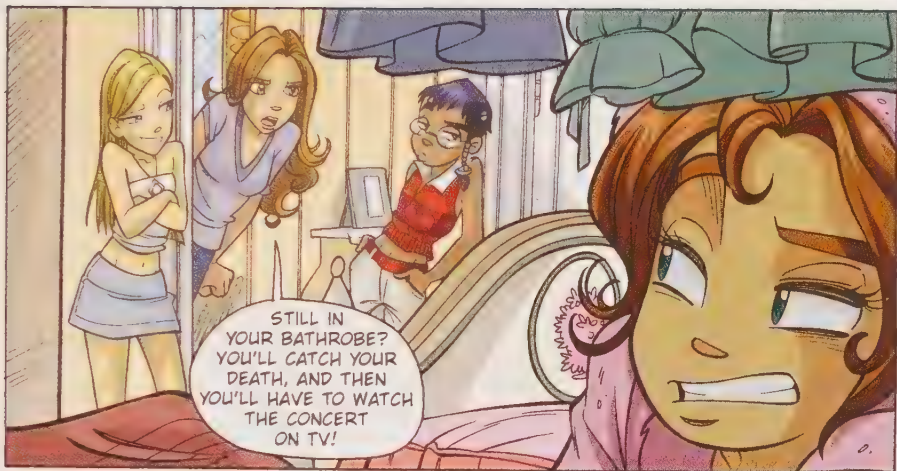




IRMA! GET UP AND PUT SOME CLOTHES ON. YOU'LL CATCH A COLD!



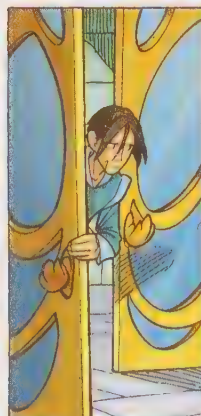
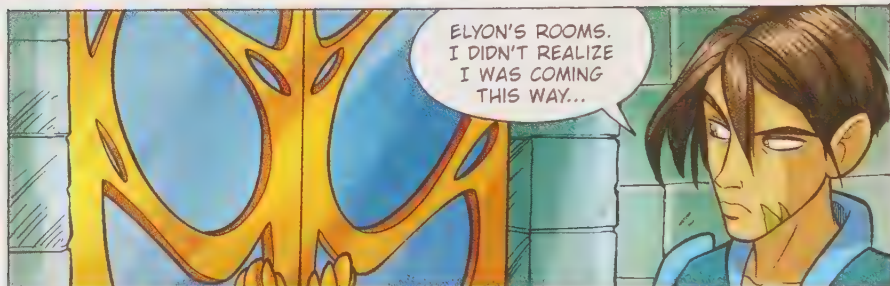




MEANWHILE, IN MERIDIAN...

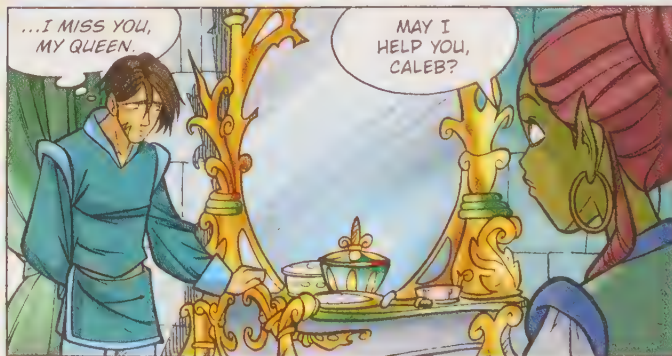
"HOW ARE YOU,
MY FRIEND?"

IF ONLY
I COULD HEAR
FROM YOU...



...I MISS YOU,
MY QUEEN.

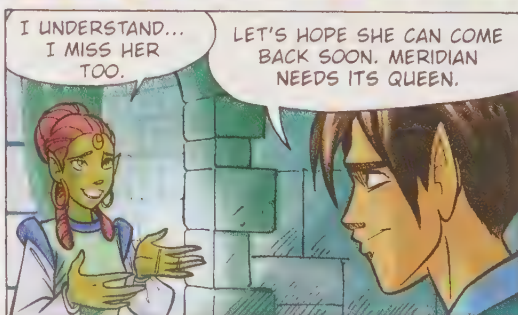
MAY I
HELP YOU,
CALEB?

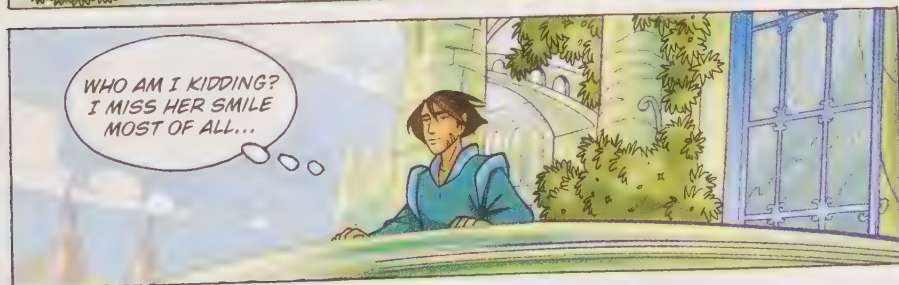
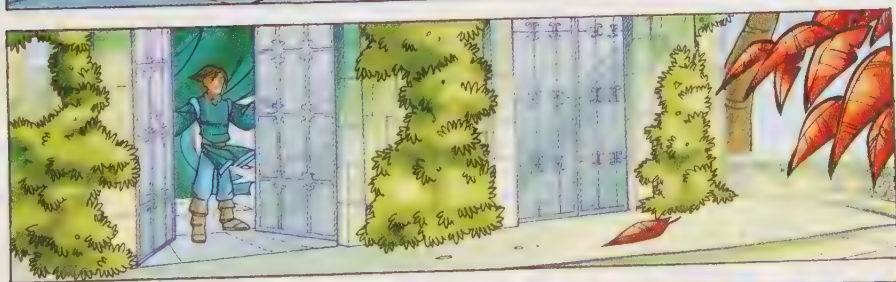
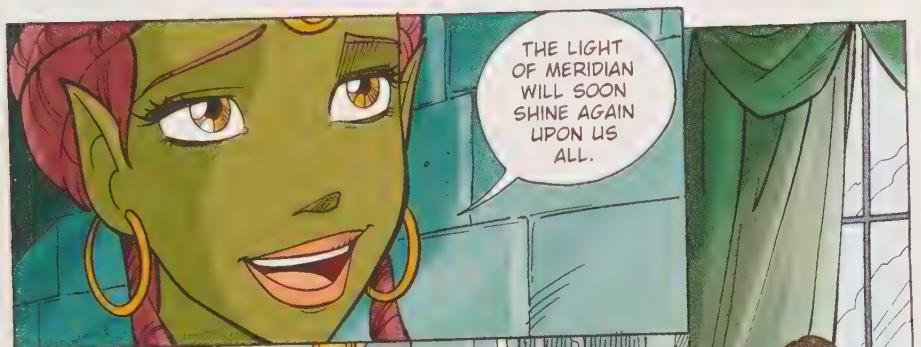


OH, NO.
I CAME HERE
TO...I
THOUGHT...

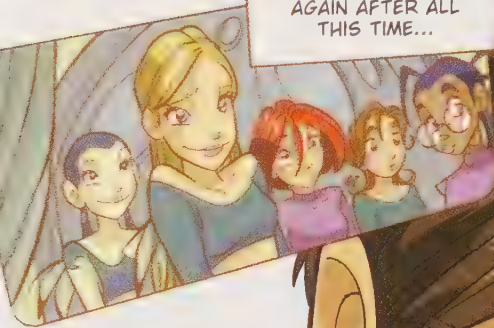
I UNDERSTAND...
I MISS HER
TOO.

LET'S HOPE SHE CAN COME
BACK SOON. MERIDIAN
NEEDS ITS QUEEN.

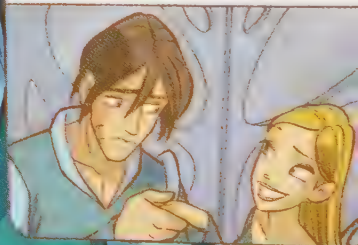




"I SAW HER SMILE
AGAIN AFTER ALL
THIS TIME..."



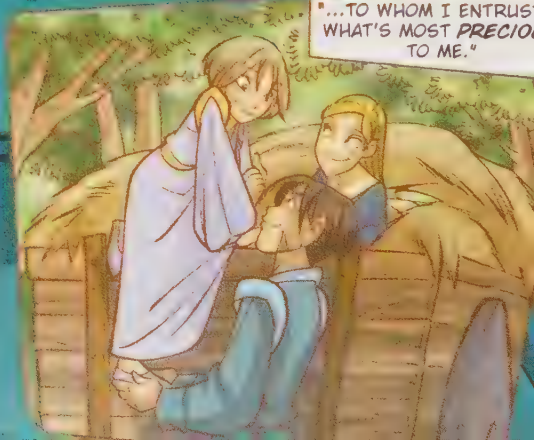
"OUR HANDS BRUSHED,
AND I FELT WHAT I'M SURE
SHE WAS FEELING TOO..."



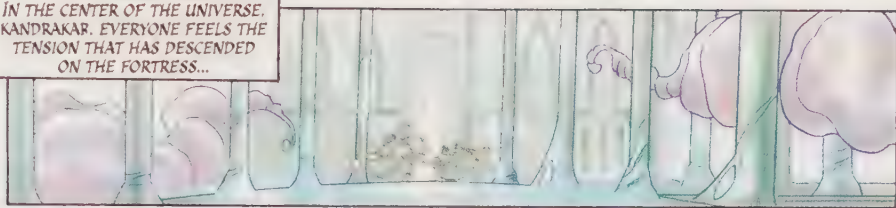
"OUR HEARTS WILL ALWAYS SHARE A SPECIAL
PLACE FOR EACH OTHER, BUT **EVERYTHING**
CHANGED WHEN I MET A FRIEND..."



"...TO WHOM I ENTRUST
WHAT'S MOST **PRECIOUS**
TO ME."

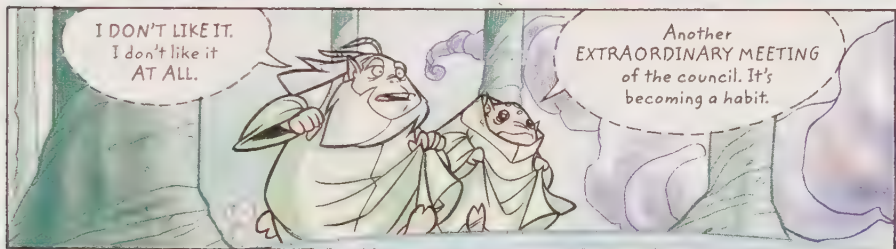


IN THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE,
KANDRAKAR. EVERYONE FEELS THE
TENSION THAT HAS DESCENDED
ON THE FORTRESS...

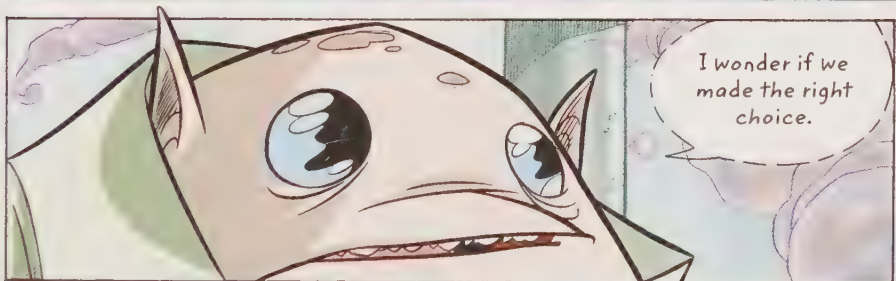


I DON'T LIKE IT.
I don't like it
AT ALL.

Another
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING
of the council. It's
becoming a habit.



I wonder if we
made the right
choice.



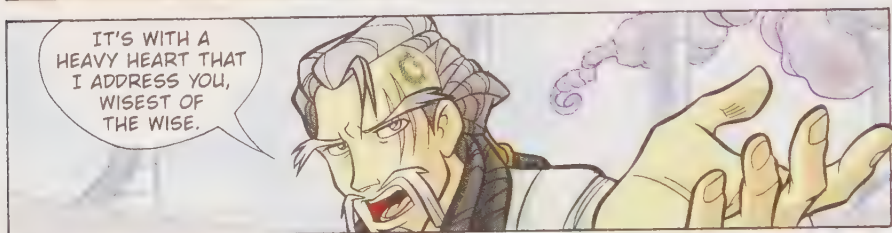
If you're talking about the
Oracle, I don't even want
to hear it.

Nice.
Bury your head
in the sand...

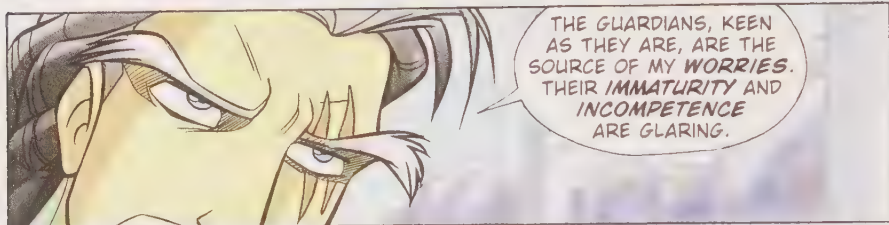




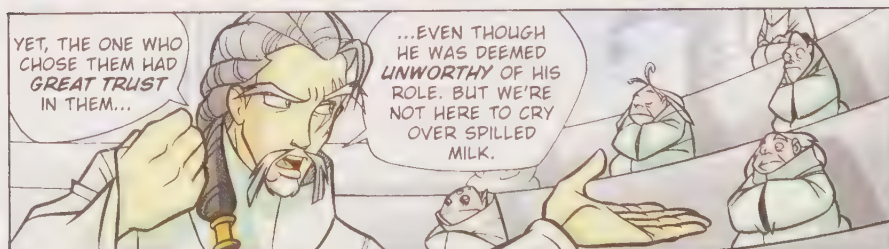
NOW THAT WE'RE
FINALLY ALL
HERE...



IT'S WITH A
HEAVY HEART THAT
I ADDRESS YOU,
WISEST OF
THE WISE.

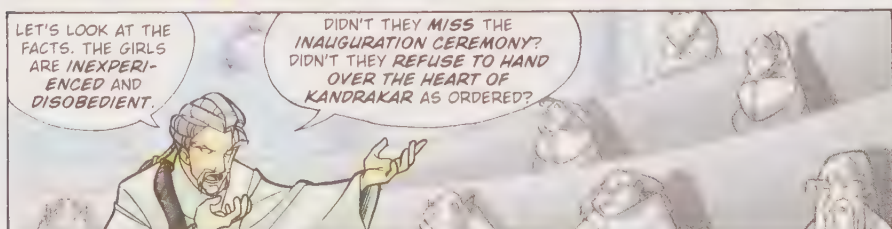


THE GUARDIANS, KEEN
AS THEY ARE, ARE THE
SOURCE OF MY *WORRIES*.
THEIR *IMMATURETY* AND
INCOMPETENCE
ARE GLARING.



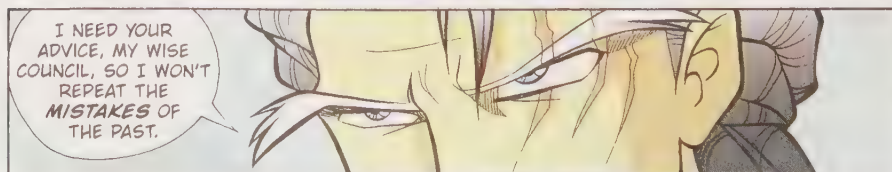
YET, THE ONE WHO
CHOSE THEM HAD
GREAT TRUST
IN THEM...

...EVEN THOUGH
HE WAS DEEMED
UNWORTHY OF HIS
ROLE. BUT WE'RE
NOT HERE TO CRY
OVER SPILLED
MILK.

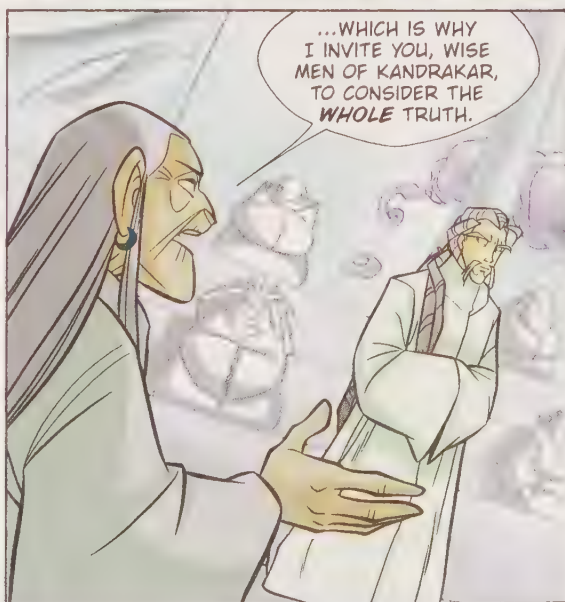
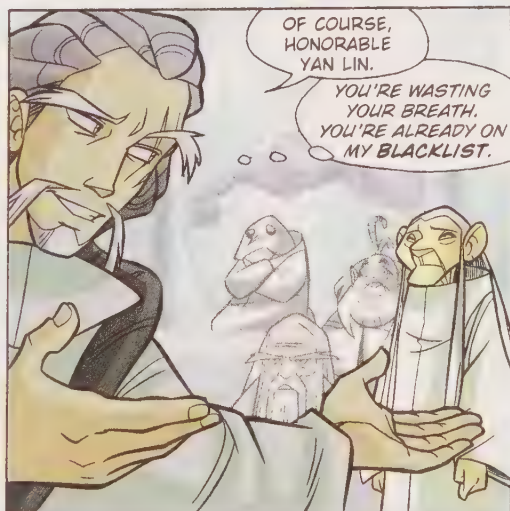
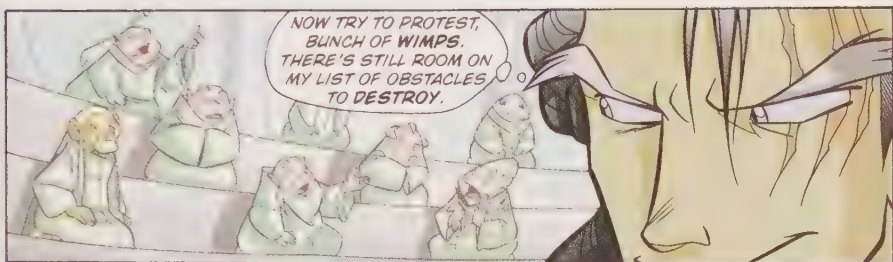


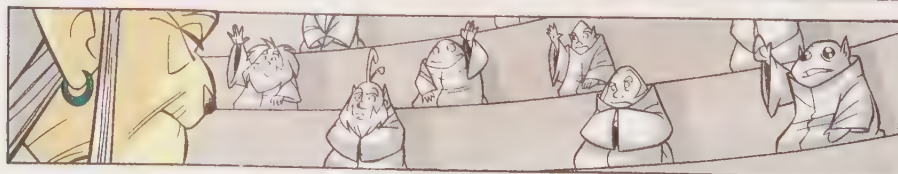
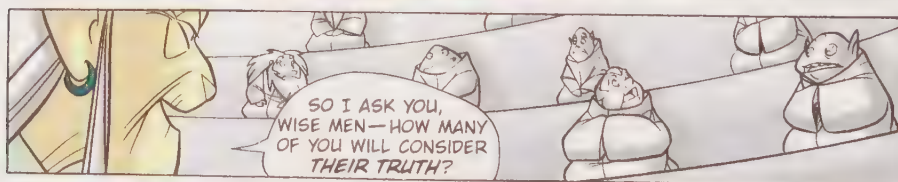
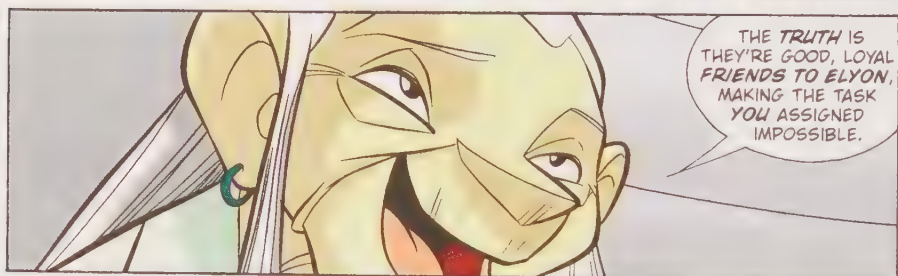
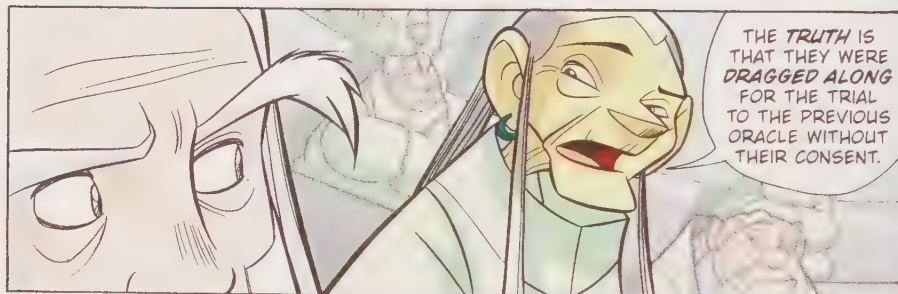
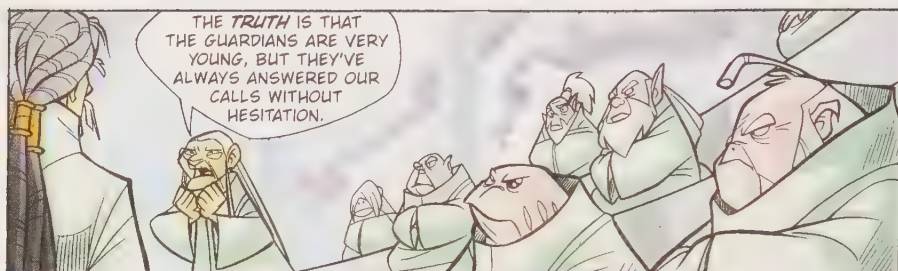
LET'S LOOK AT THE
FACTS. THE GIRLS
ARE *INEXPERIENCED*
AND
DISOBEDIENT.

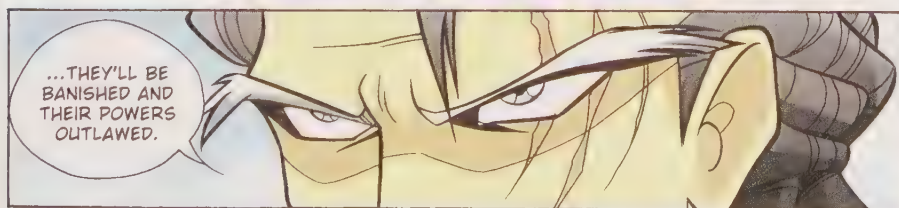
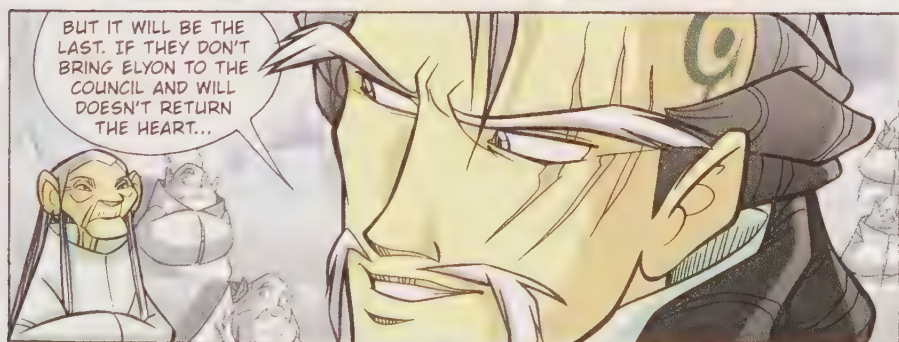
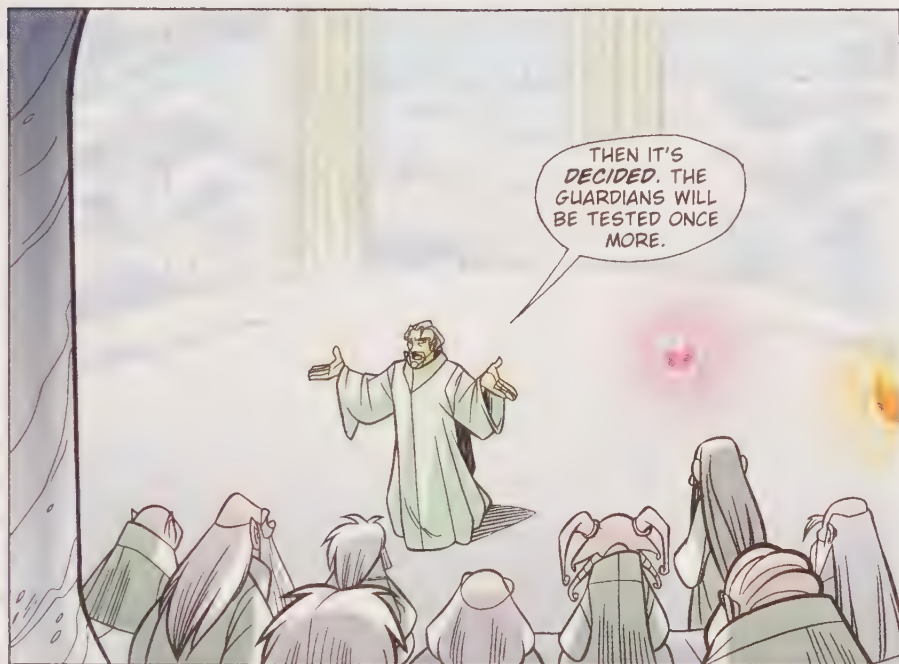
DIDN'T THEY *MISS* THE
INAUGURATION CEREMONY?
DIDN'T THEY *REFUSE* TO HAND
OVER THE HEART OF
KANDRAKAR AS ORDERED?



I NEED YOUR
ADVICE, MY WISE
COUNCIL, SO I WON'T
REPEAT THE
MISTAKES OF
THE PAST.







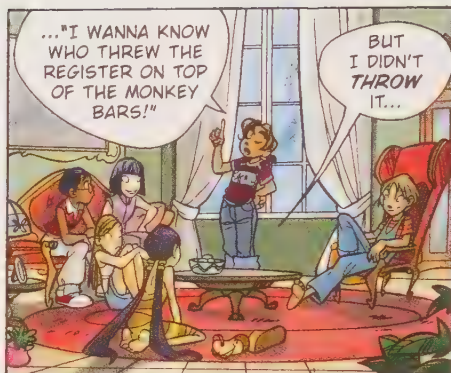
MUCH IS AMISS,
IN KANDRAKAR...

MEANWHILE,
AT ORUBE'S...

NOOOOO!
THAT'S NOT
TRUE! LIAR!

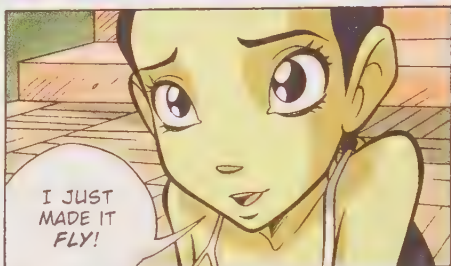
**HA-
HA-HA!**

THEN
HORSEBERG
SAYS...

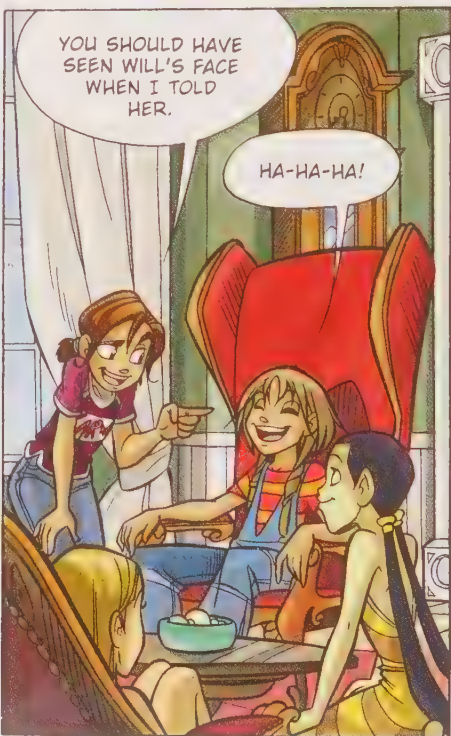


..."I WANNA KNOW
WHO THREW THE
REGISTER ON TOP
OF THE MONKEY
BARS!"

BUT
I DIDN'T
THROW
IT...

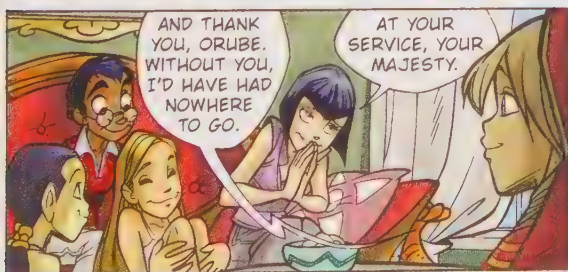
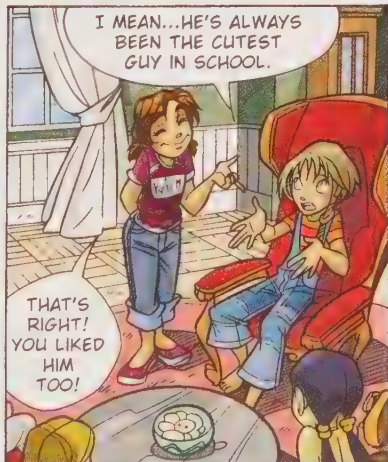
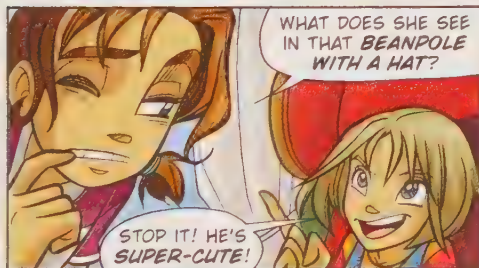
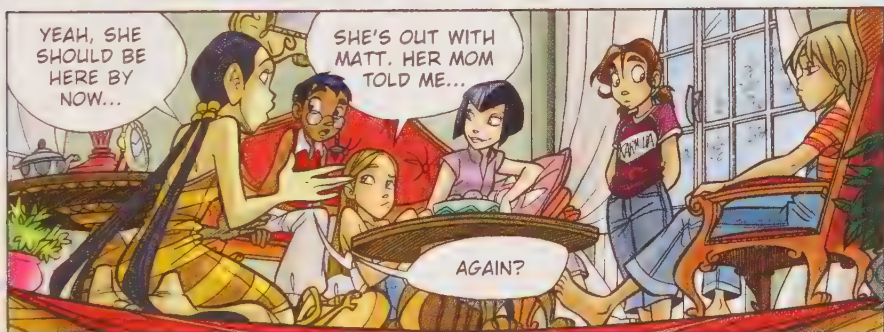
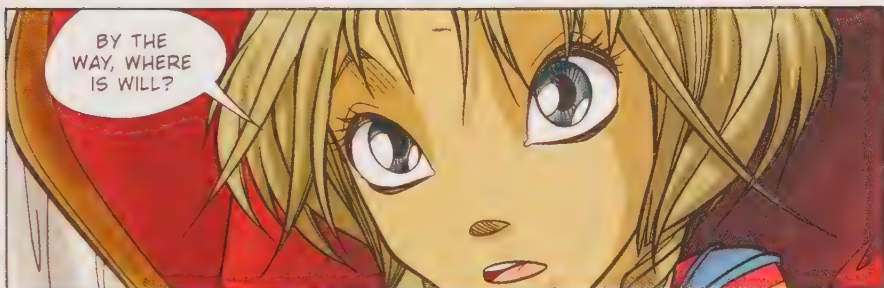


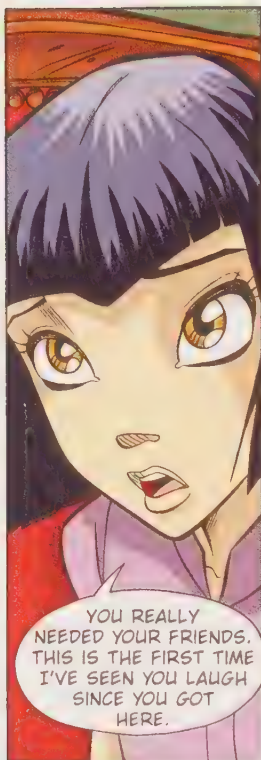
I JUST
MADE IT
FLY!



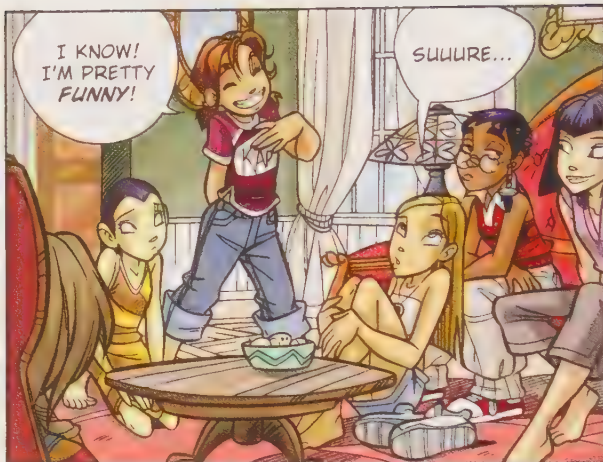
YOU SHOULD HAVE
SEEN WILL'S FACE
WHEN I TOLD
HER.

HA-HA-HA!



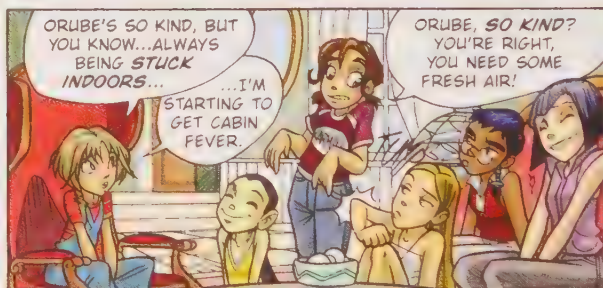


YOU REALLY NEEDED YOUR FRIENDS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE SEEN YOU LAUGH SINCE YOU GOT HERE.



I KNOW! I'M PRETTY FUNNY!

SURE...



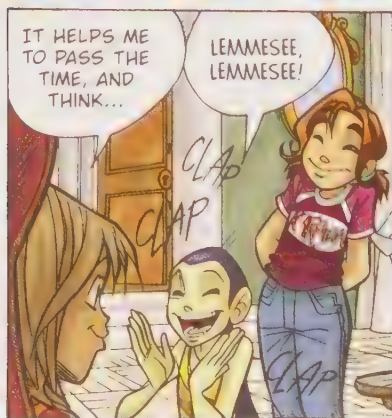
ORUBE'S SO KIND, BUT YOU KNOW...ALWAYS BEING STUCK INDOORS...

...I'M STARTING TO GET CABIN FEVER.

ORUBE, SO KIND? YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU NEED SOME FRESH AIR!



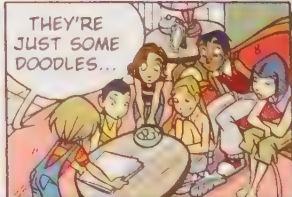
I KNOW THERE'S NOT MUCH TO DO HERE, BUT I NOTICED YOU LIKE DRAWING...



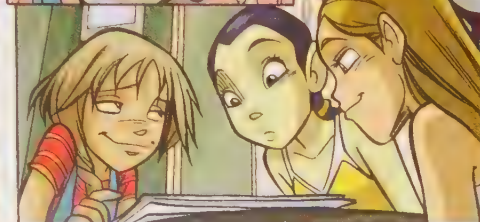
IT HELPS ME TO PASS THE TIME, AND THINK...

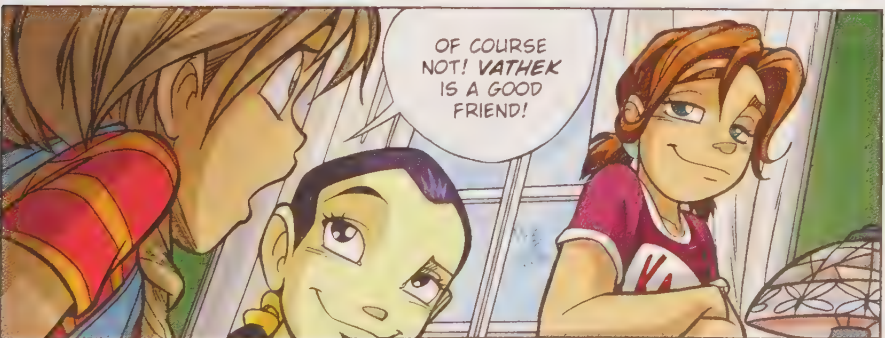
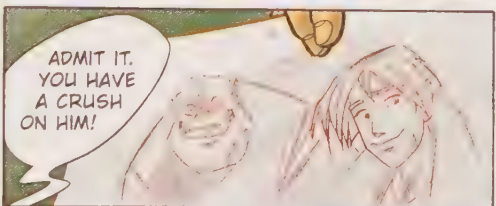
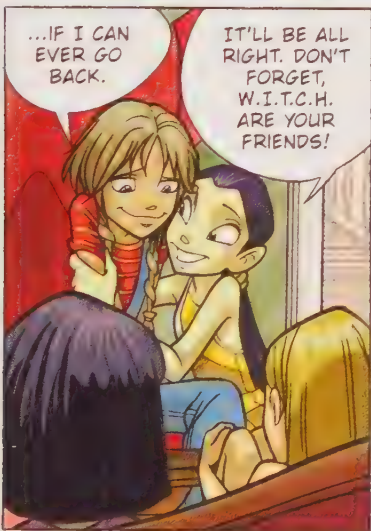
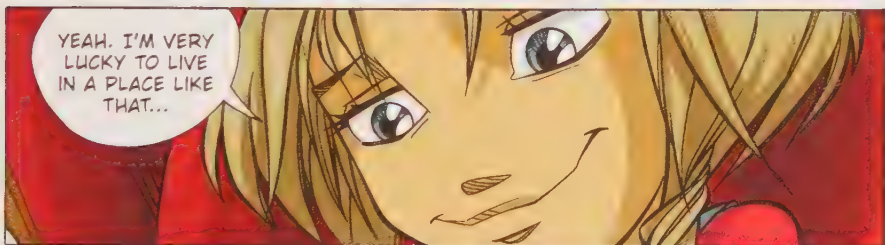
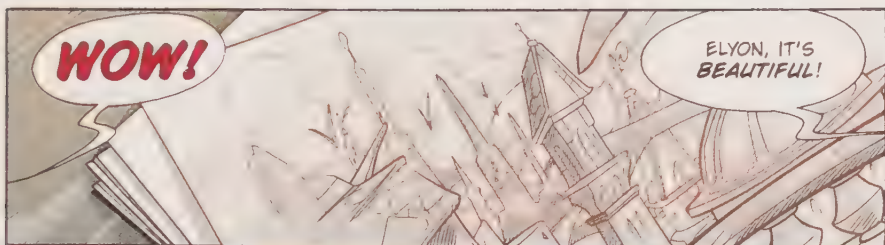
LEMMESEE, LEMMESEE!

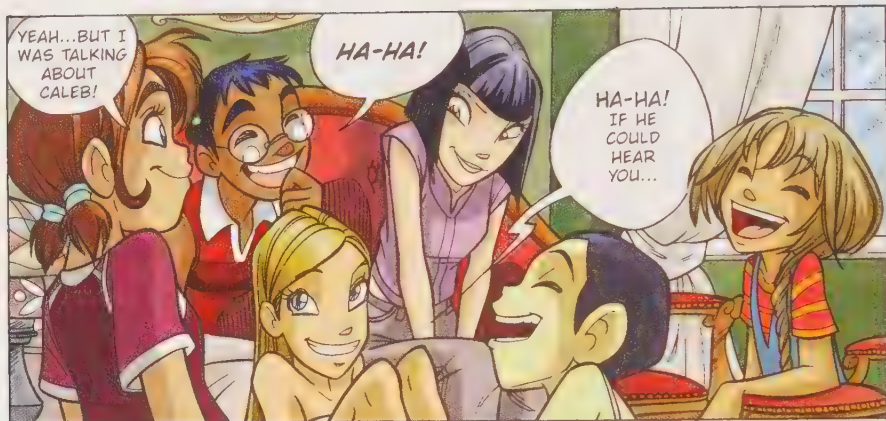
CLAP CLAP



THEY'RE JUST SOME DOODLES...



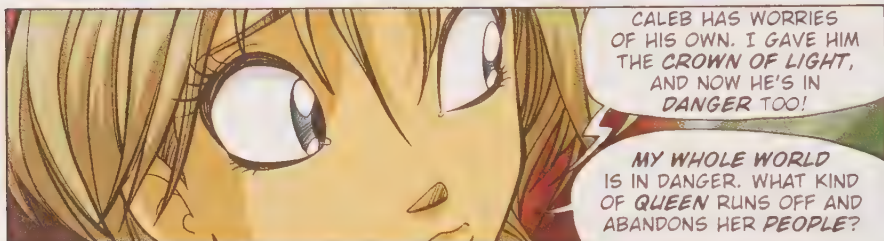




YEAH...BUT I WAS TALKING ABOUT CALEB!

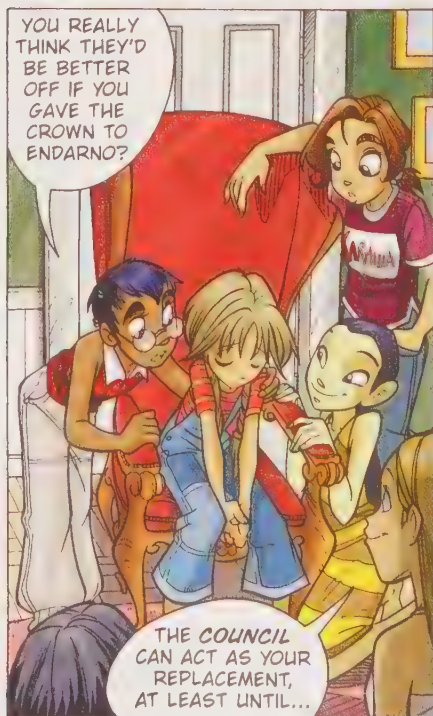
HA-HA!

HA-HA!
IF HE COULD HEAR YOU...



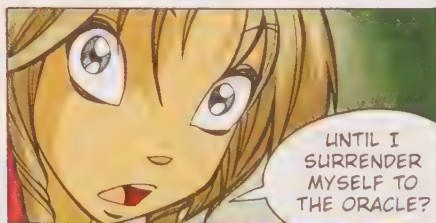
CALEB HAS WORRIES OF HIS OWN. I GAVE HIM THE CROWN OF LIGHT, AND NOW HE'S IN DANGER TOO!

MY WHOLE WORLD IS IN DANGER. WHAT KIND OF QUEEN RUNS OFF AND ABANDONS HER PEOPLE?

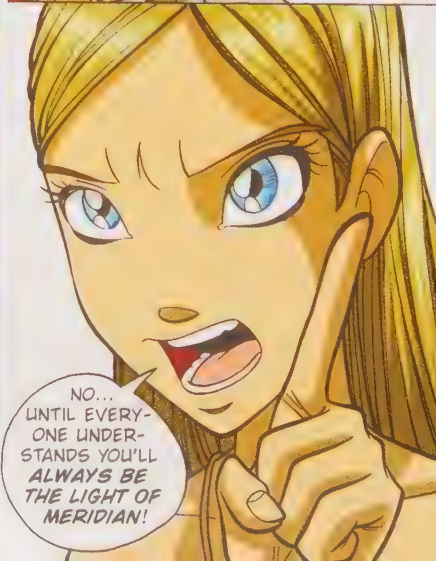


YOU REALLY THINK THEY'D BE BETTER OFF IF YOU GAVE THE CROWN TO ENDARNO?

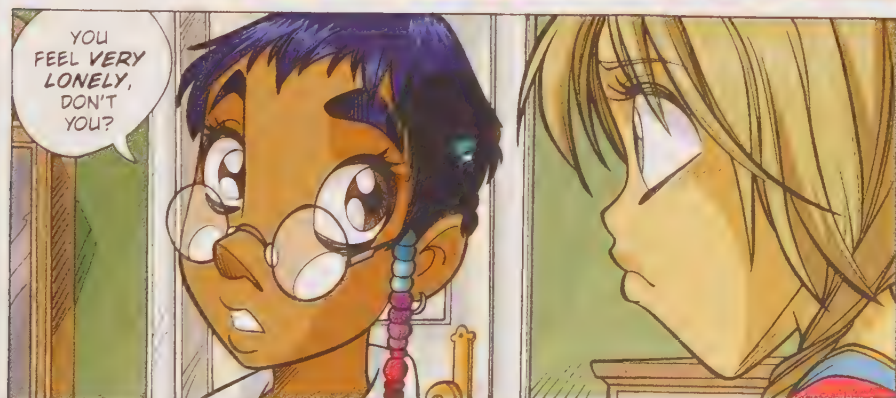
THE COUNCIL CAN ACT AS YOUR REPLACEMENT, AT LEAST UNTIL...

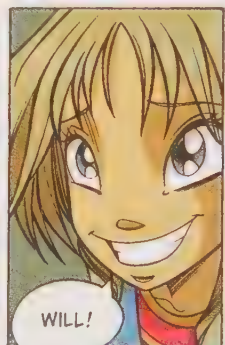
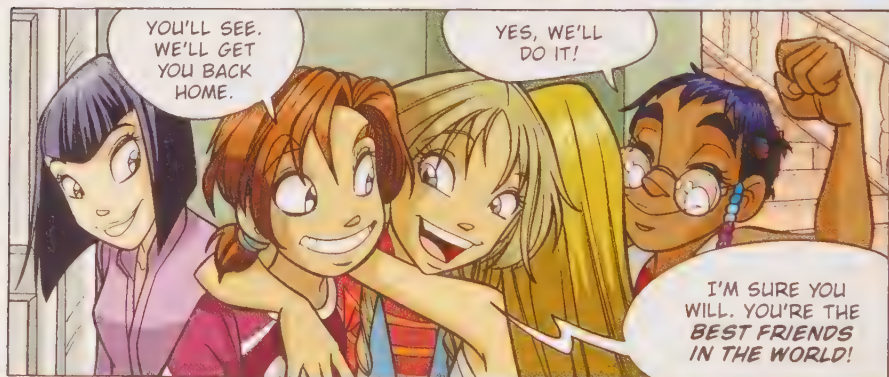
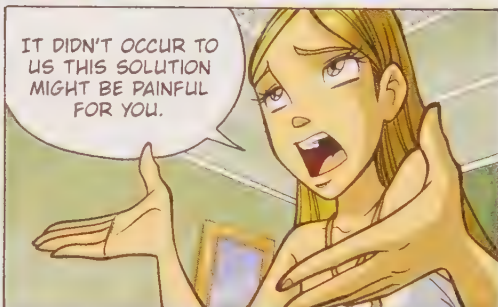
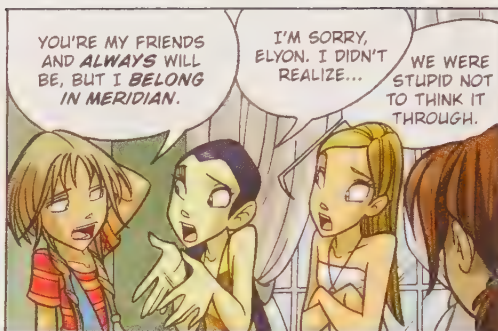
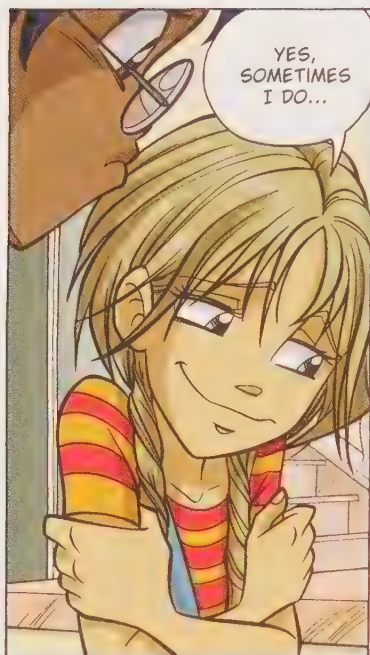


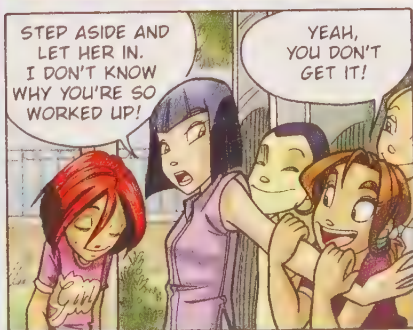
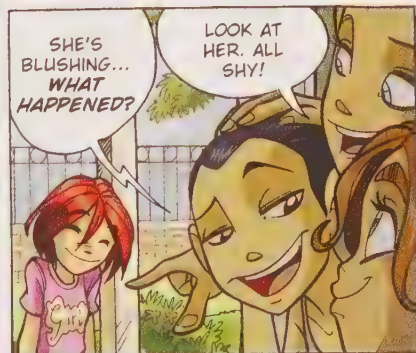
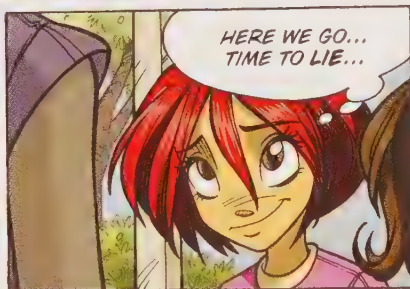
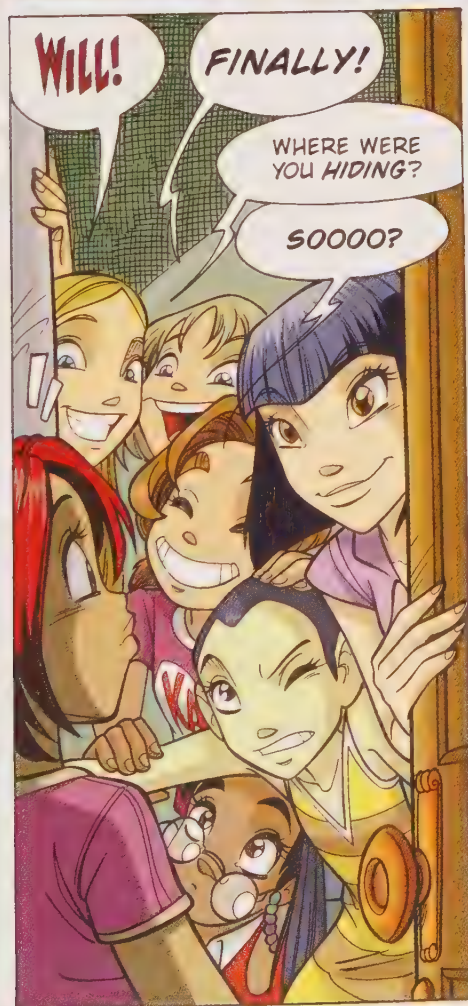
UNTIL I SURRENDER MYSELF TO THE ORACLE?

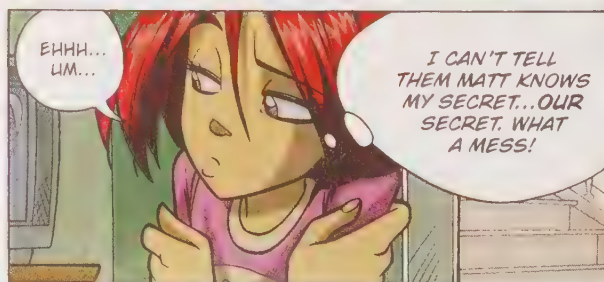
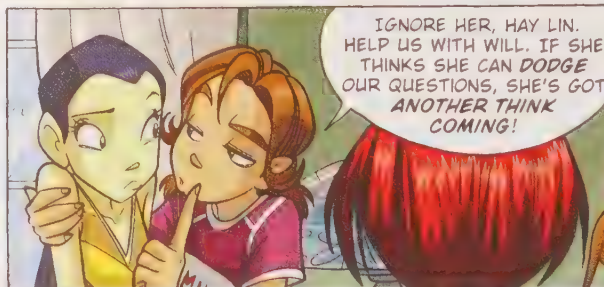
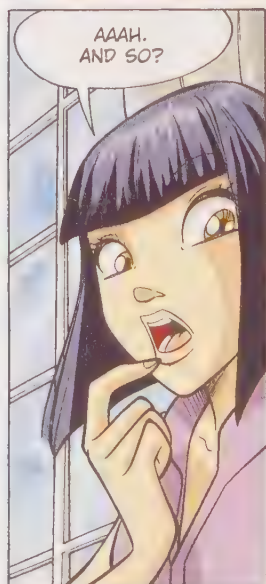
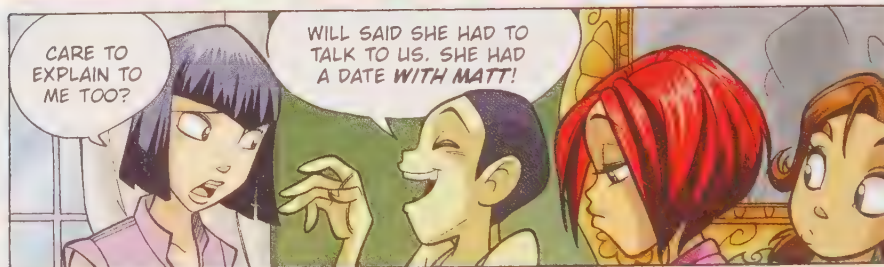
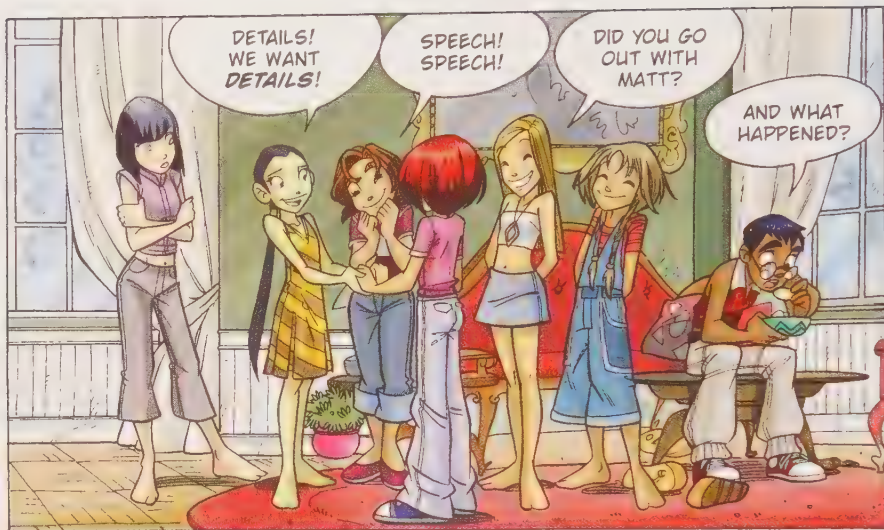


NO... UNTIL EVERYONE UNDERSTANDS YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THE LIGHT OF MERIDIAN!





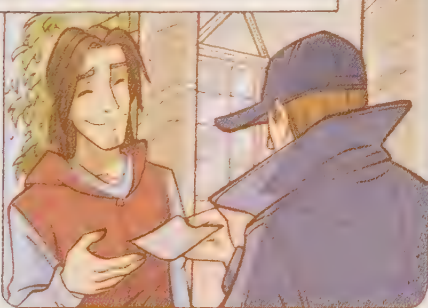




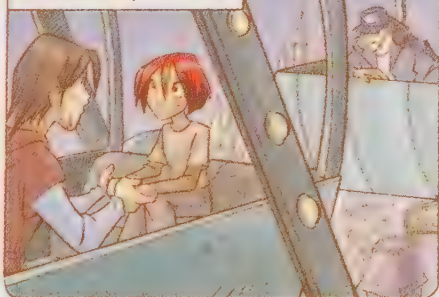
"HOW CAN I TELL
THEM WHAT HAPPENED
AT THE **FUNFAIR**...?"



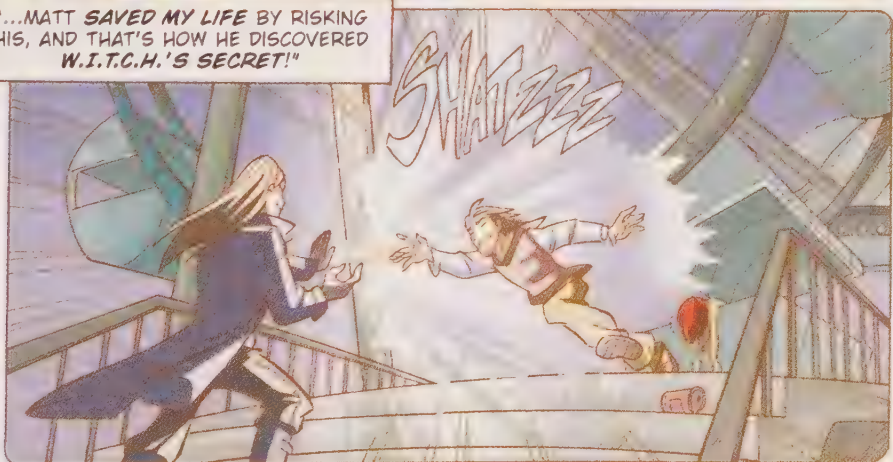
"THAT MATT TOOK ME
THERE, LURED INTO A **TRAP**
BY SOMEONE...BUT WHO?"

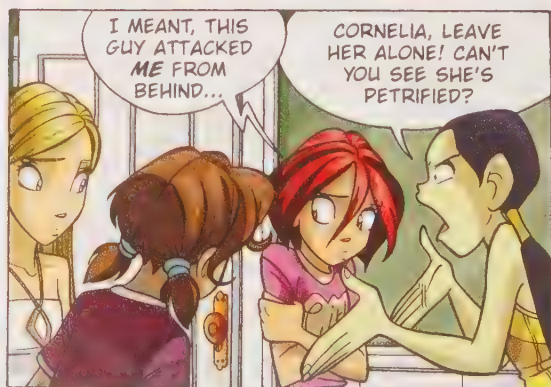
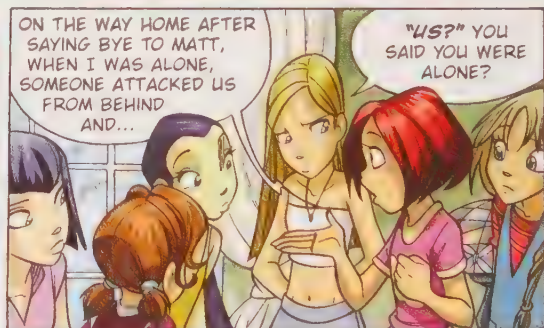
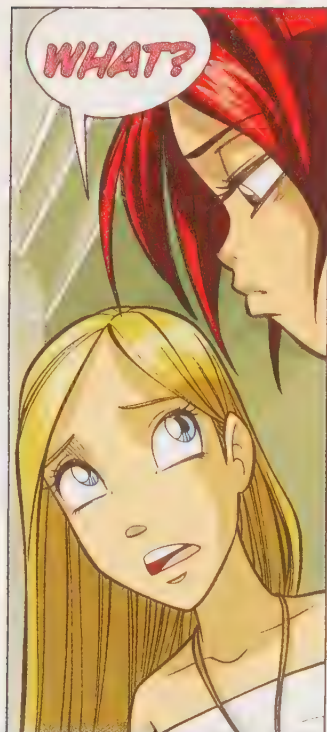
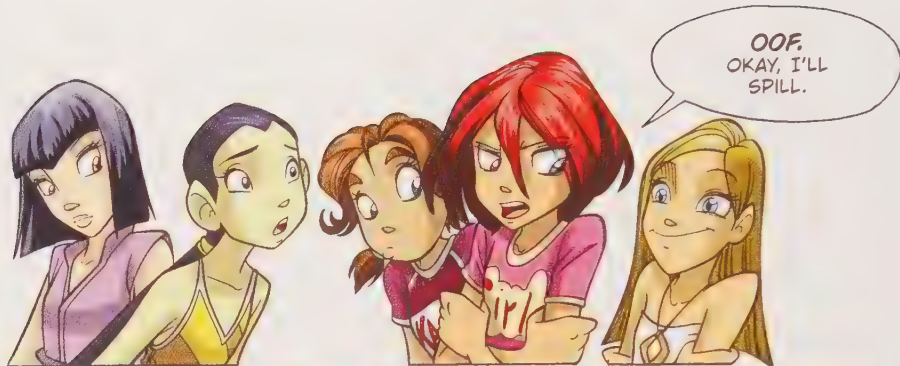


"THAT WE WERE
ATTACKED FROM
BEHIND, AND...



"...MATT **SAVED MY LIFE** BY RISKING
HIS, AND THAT'S HOW HE DISCOVERED
W.I.T.C.H.'S SECRET!"

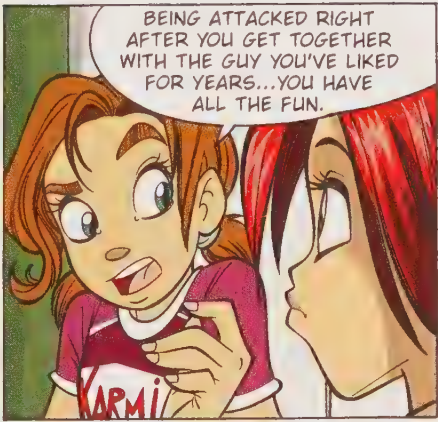




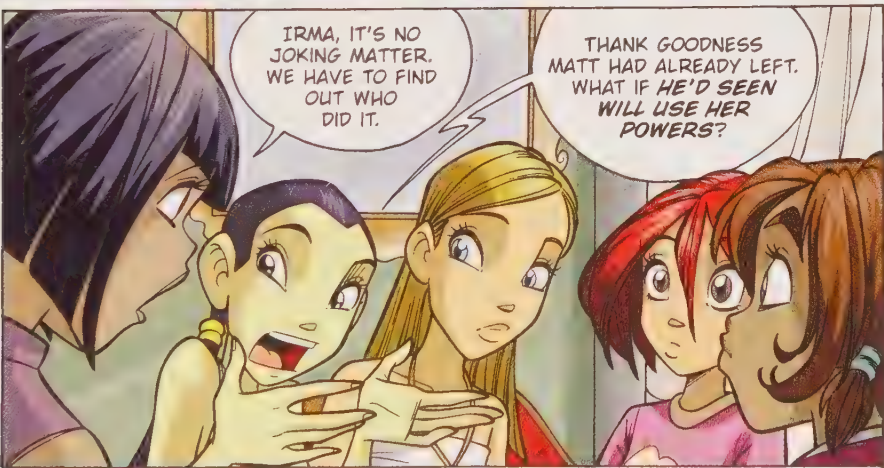
MANY CONFUSED
EXPLANATIONS LATER...



I DUNNO WHO
IT WAS, BUT I'M
SURE HE WANTED
THE HEART OF
KANDRAKAR.



BEING ATTACKED RIGHT
AFTER YOU GET TOGETHER
WITH THE GUY YOU'VE LIKED
FOR YEARS...YOU HAVE
ALL THE FUN.

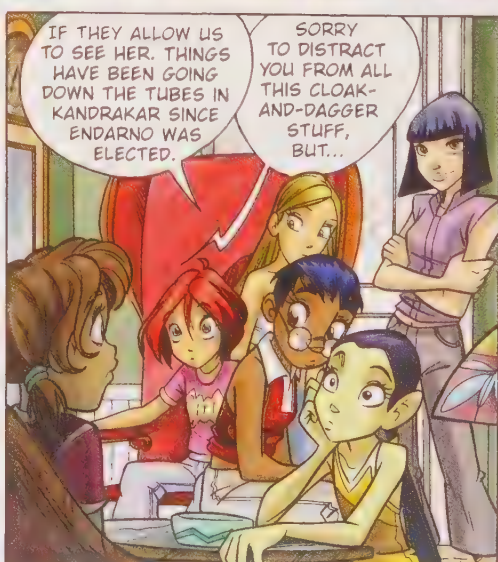
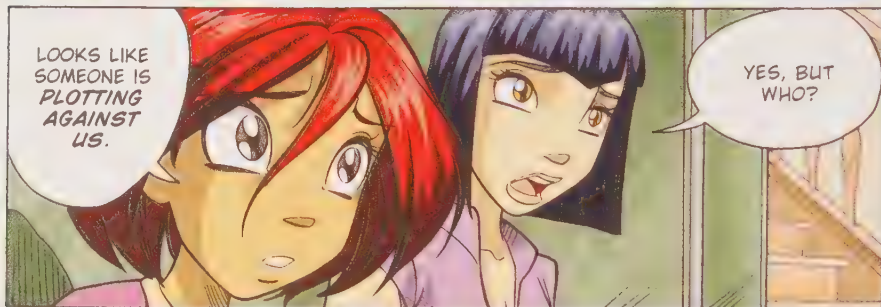
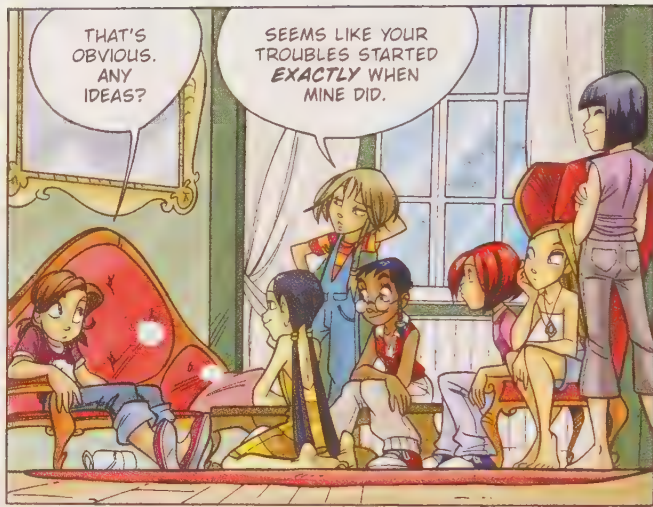


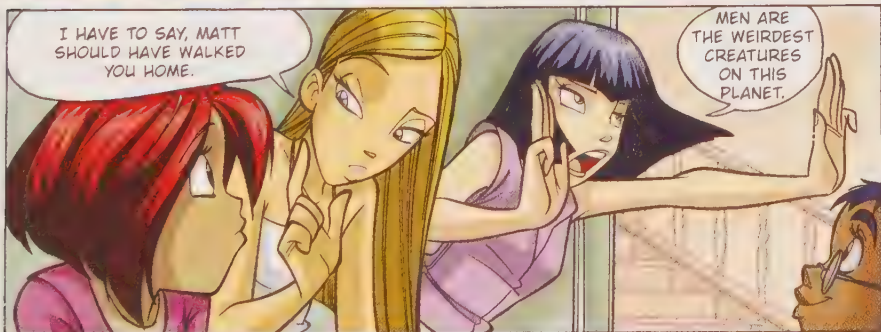
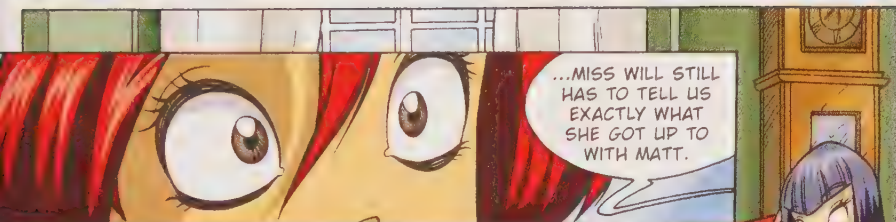
IRMA, IT'S NO
JOKING MATTER.
WE HAVE TO FIND
OUT WHO
DID IT.

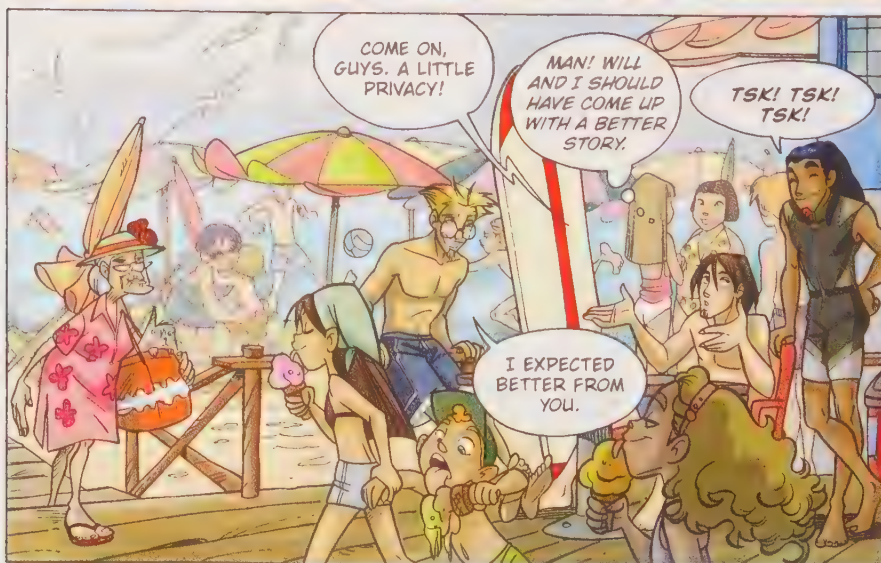
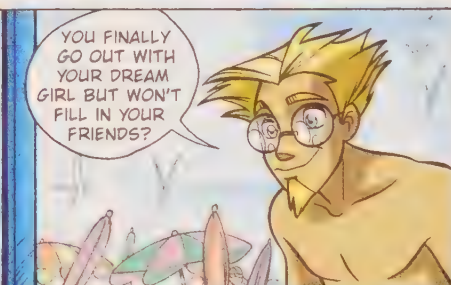
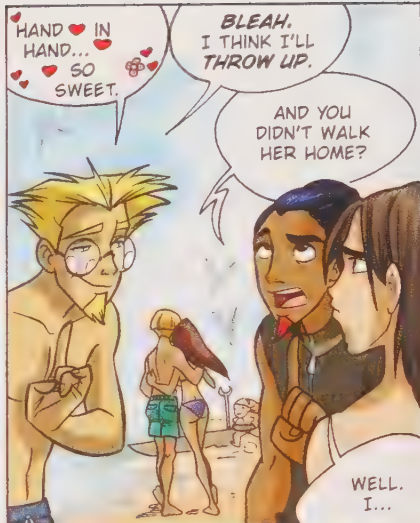
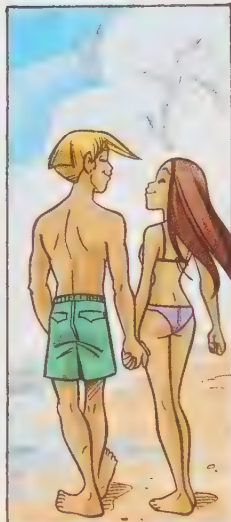
THANK GOODNESS
MATT HAD ALREADY LEFT.
WHAT IF HE'D SEEN
WILL USE HER
POWERS?

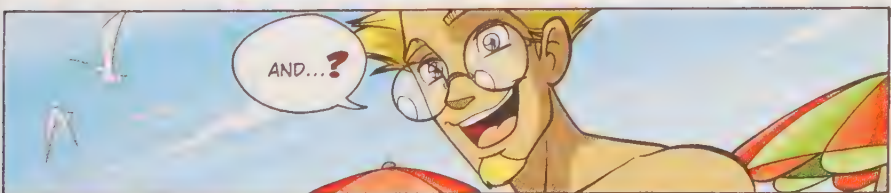
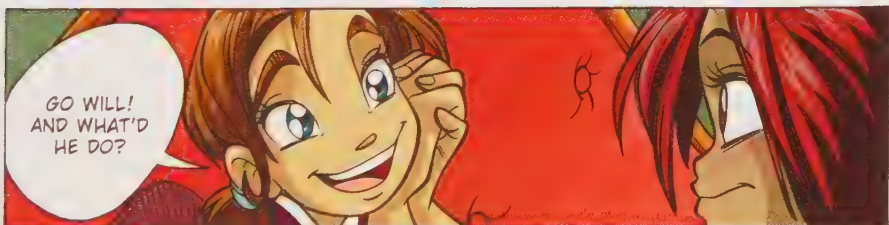
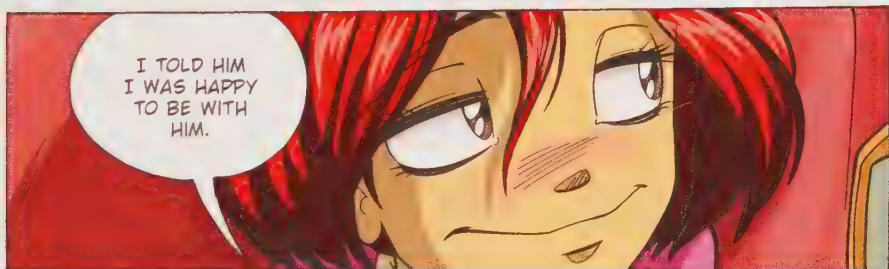
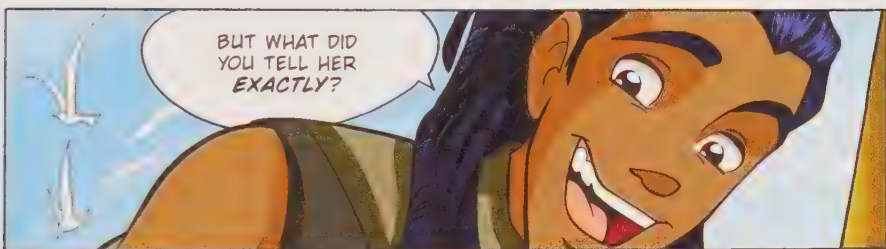


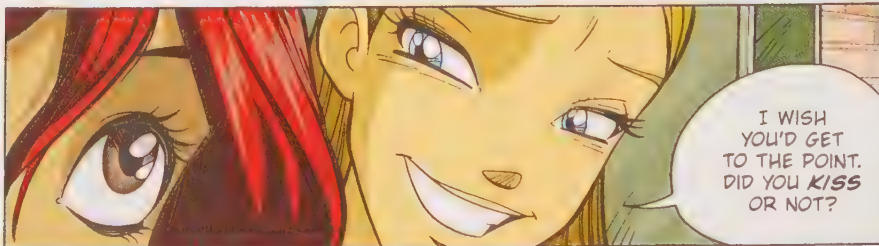
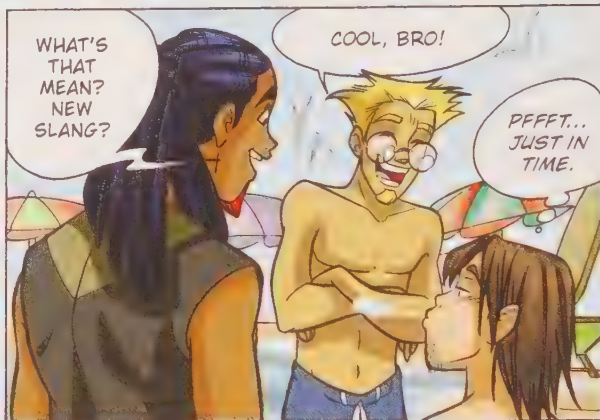
YEAH...

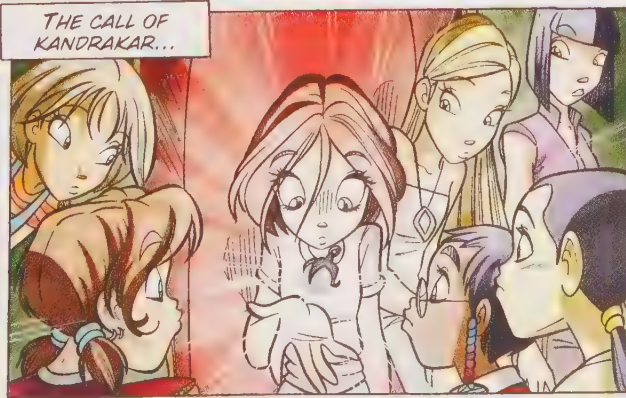
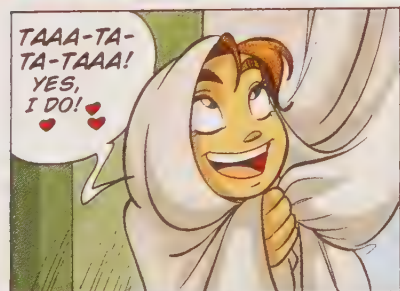
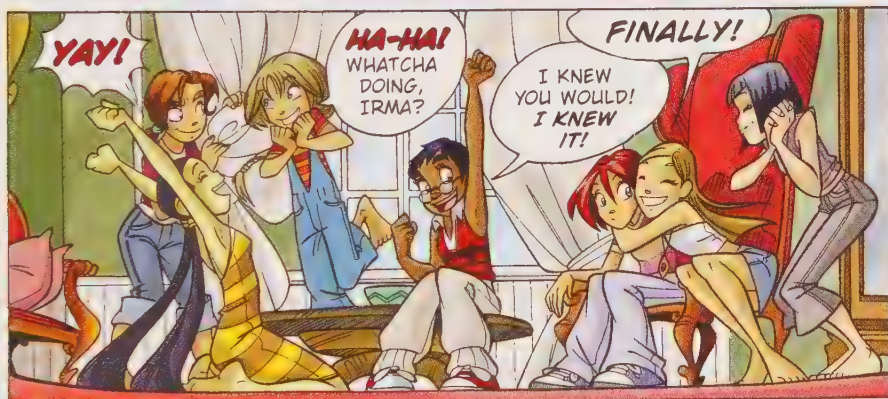
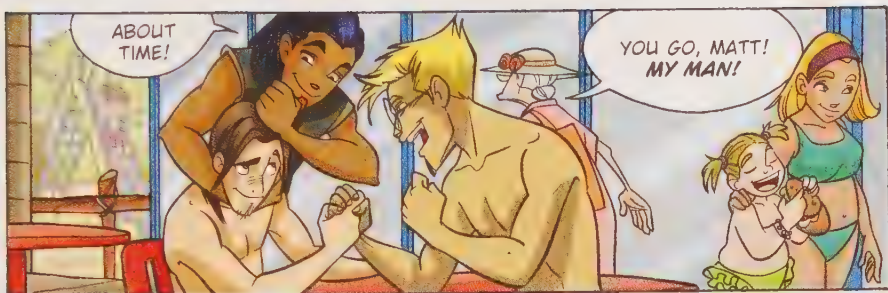




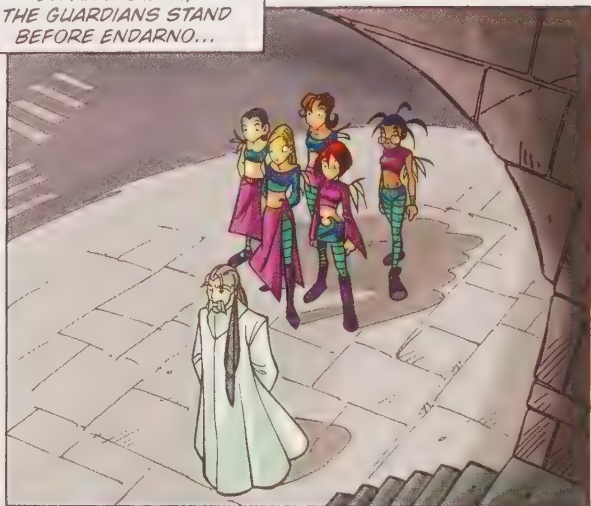








IN AN INSTANT,
THE GUARDIANS STAND
BEFORE ENDARNO...

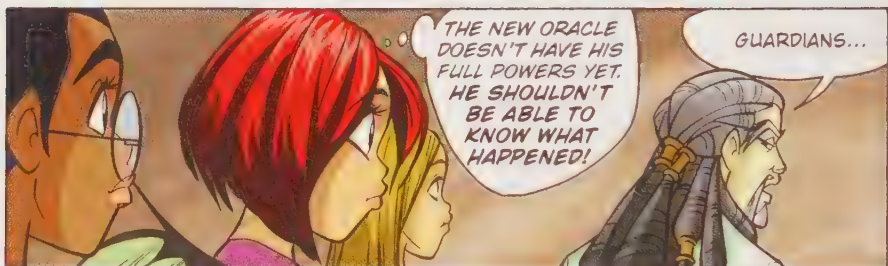


I'M AFRAID
ENDARNO FOUND
OUT ABOUT ME.

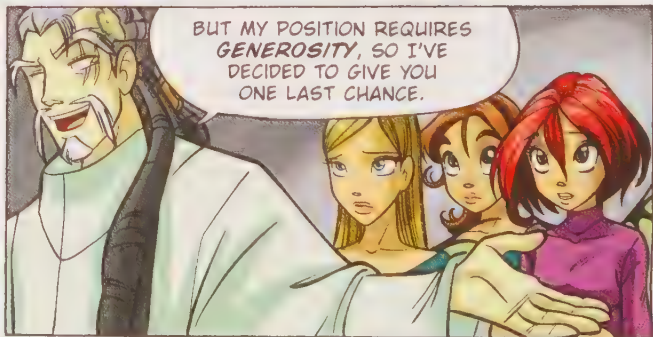


THE NEW ORACLE
DOESN'T HAVE HIS
FULL POWERS YET.
HE SHOULDN'T
BE ABLE TO
KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED!

GUARDIANS...



BUT MY POSITION REQUIRES
GENEROSITY, SO I'VE
DECIDED TO GIVE YOU
ONE LAST CHANCE.

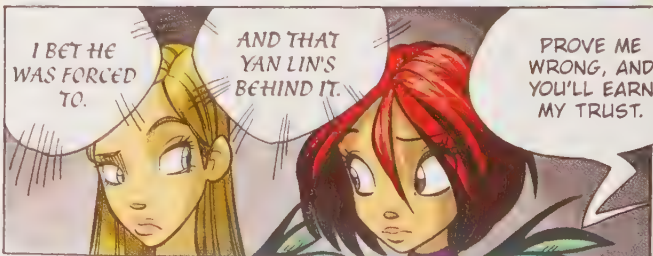


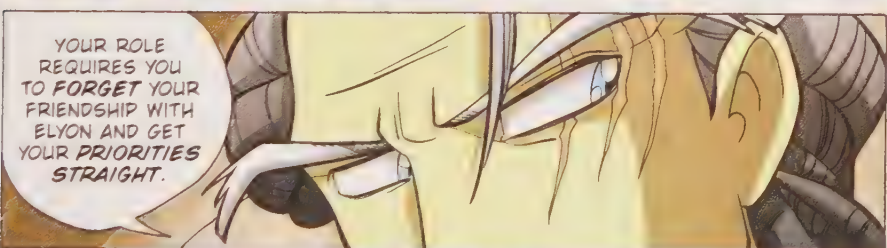
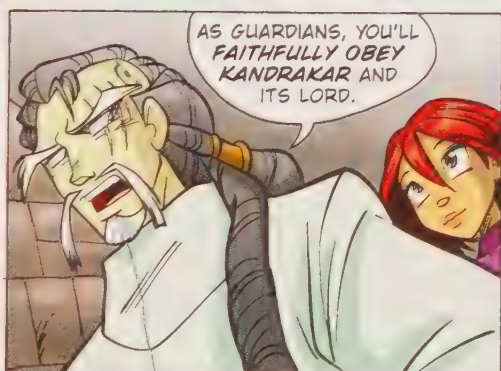
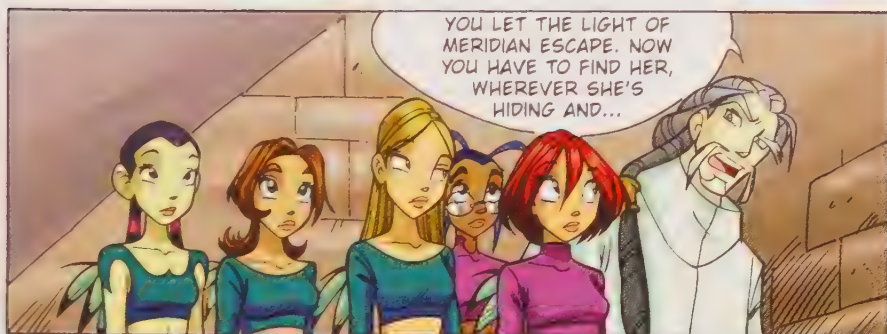
I'VE LONG
DOUBTED YOUR
WORTHINESS OF
THE ROLE MY
PREDECESSOR
ASSIGNED YOU.

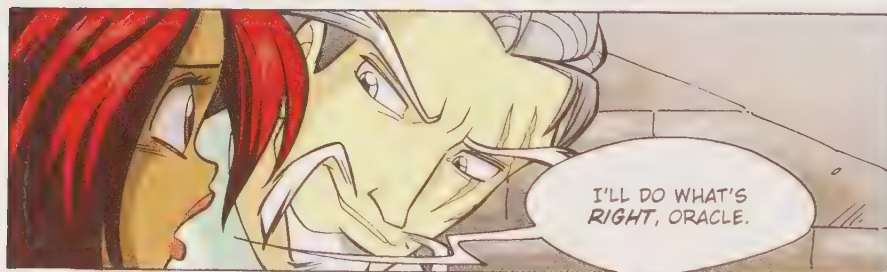
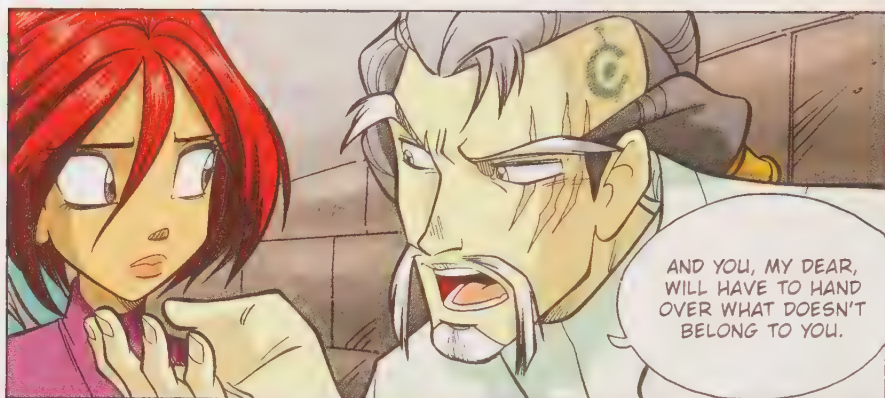
I BET HE
WAS FORCED
TO.

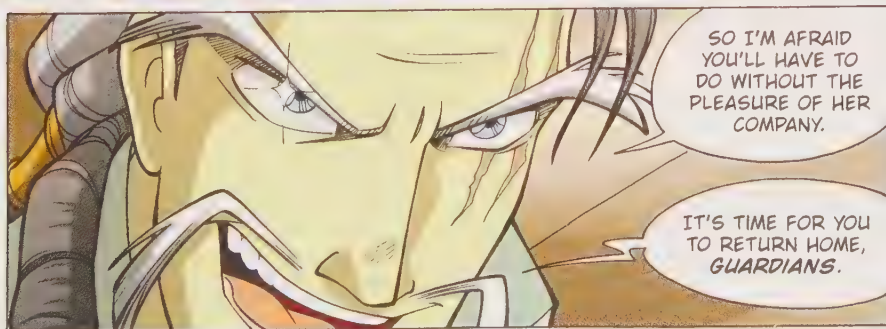
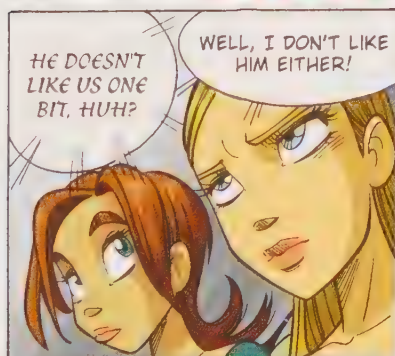
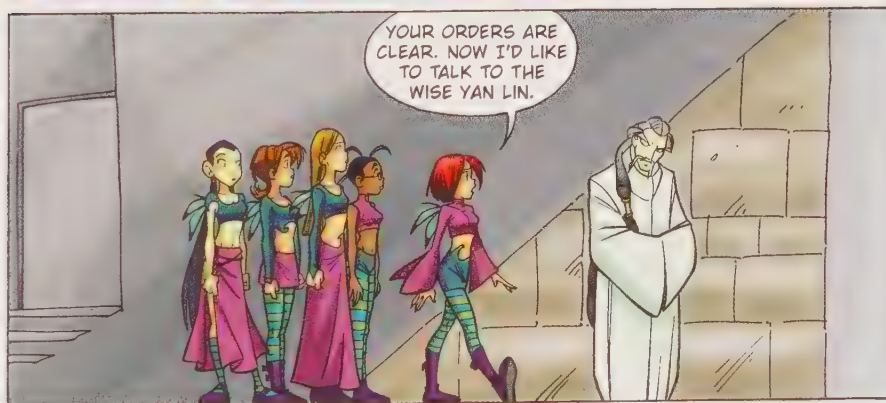
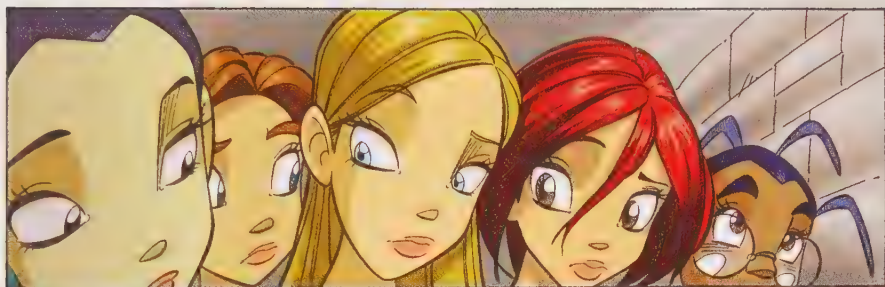
AND THAT
YAN LIN'S
BEHIND IT.

PROVE ME
WRONG, AND
YOU'LL EARN
MY TRUST.

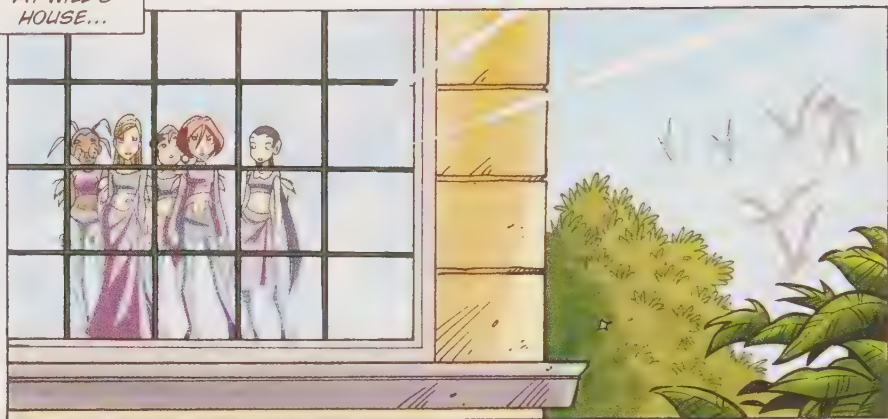






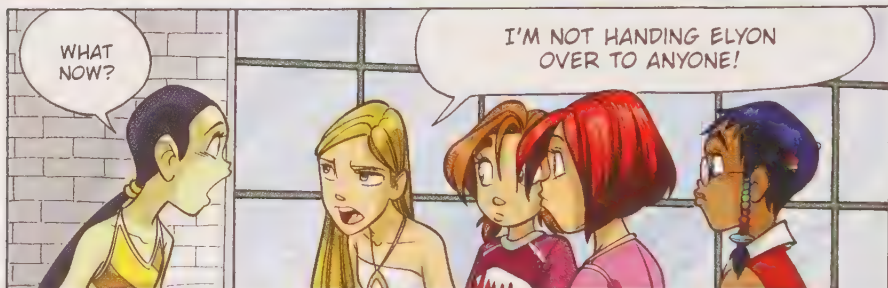


AT WILL'S
HOUSE...



WHAT
NOW?

I'M NOT HANDING ELYON
OVER TO ANYONE!



STAY COOL. WE
GOTTA KEEP
CALM.

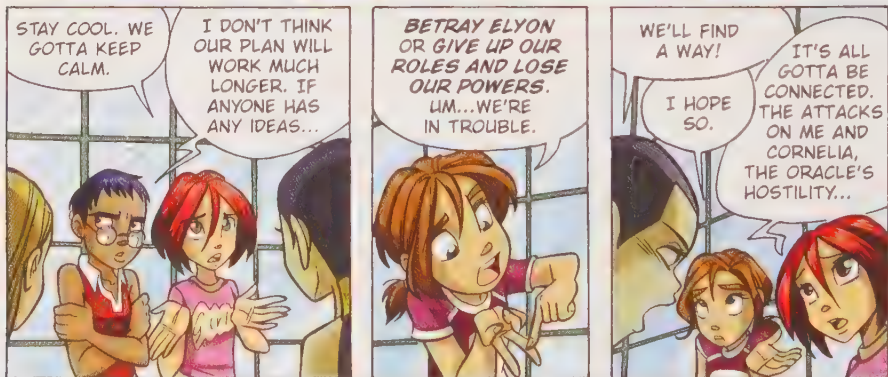
I DON'T THINK
OUR PLAN WILL
WORK MUCH
LONGER. IF
ANYONE HAS
ANY IDEAS...

**BETRAY ELYON
OR GIVE UP OUR
ROLES AND LOSE
OUR POWERS.**
UM...WE'RE
IN TROUBLE.

WE'LL FIND
A WAY!

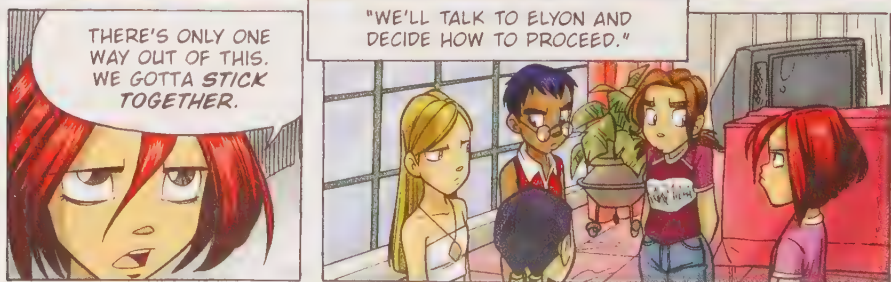
I HOPE
SO.

IT'S ALL
GOTTA BE
CONNECTED.
THE ATTACKS
ON ME AND
CORNELIA,
THE ORACLE'S
HOSTILITY...



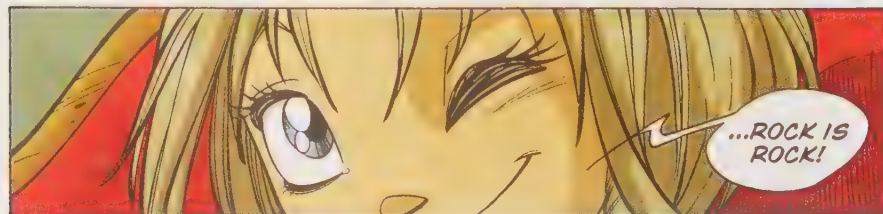
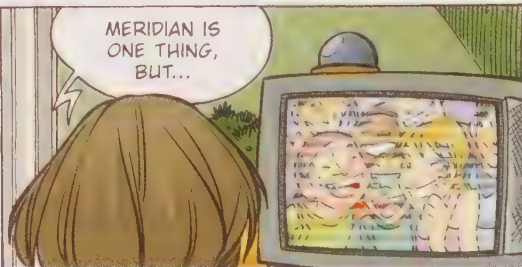
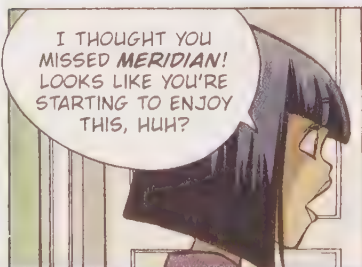
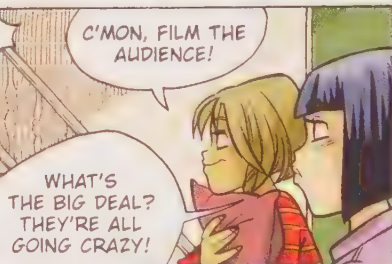
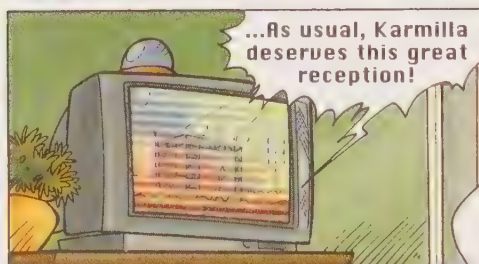
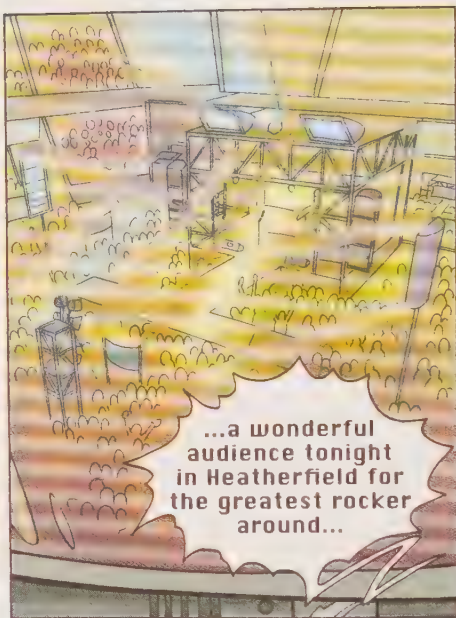
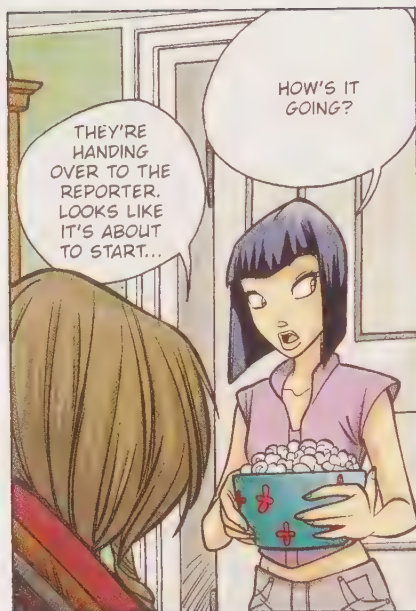
THERE'S ONLY ONE
WAY OUT OF THIS.
WE GOTTA **STICK
TOGETHER.**

"WE'LL TALK TO ELYON AND
DECIDE HOW TO PROCEED."

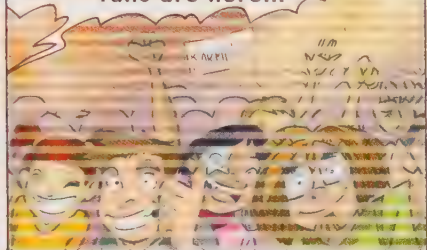


SHORTLY
AFTER...





The warm weather makes
the wait more pleasant.
Thousands of young
fans are here...



...and we have to
say, some are
REALLY RAD!

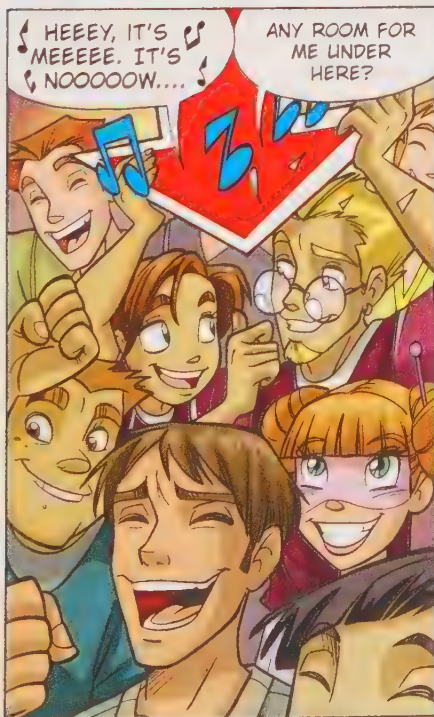


YOO-HOOO!
I'M
HEEEERE!



♪ HEEY, IT'S
MEEEEE. IT'S
♪ NOOOOOW.... ♪

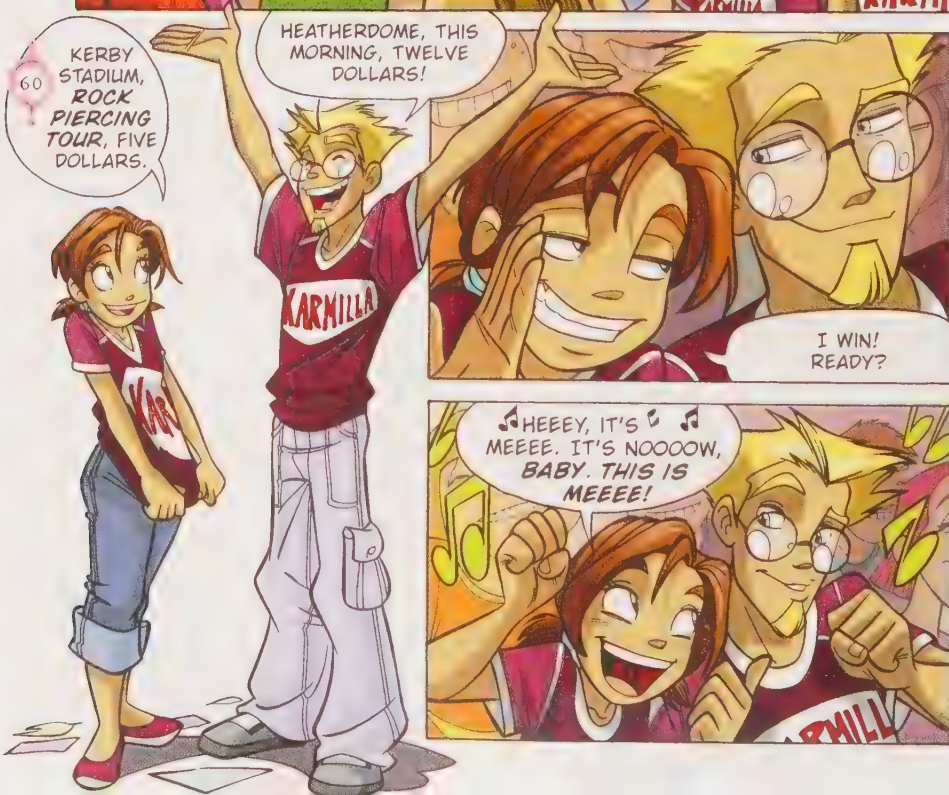
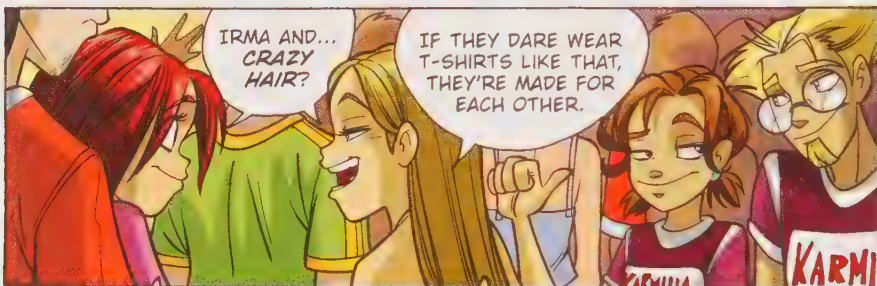
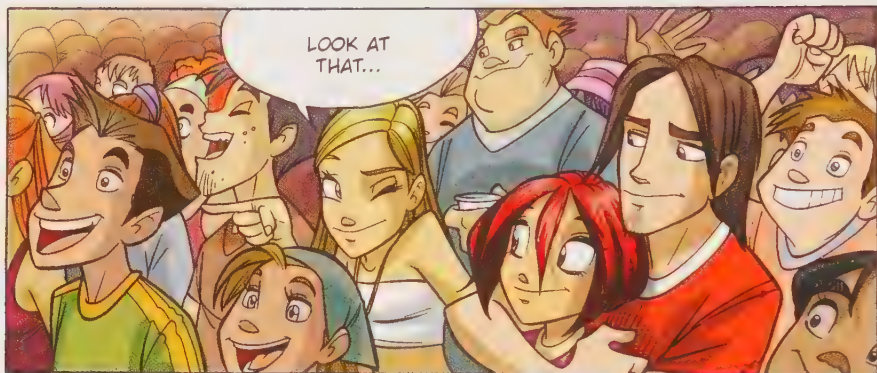
ANY ROOM FOR
ME UNDER
HERE?

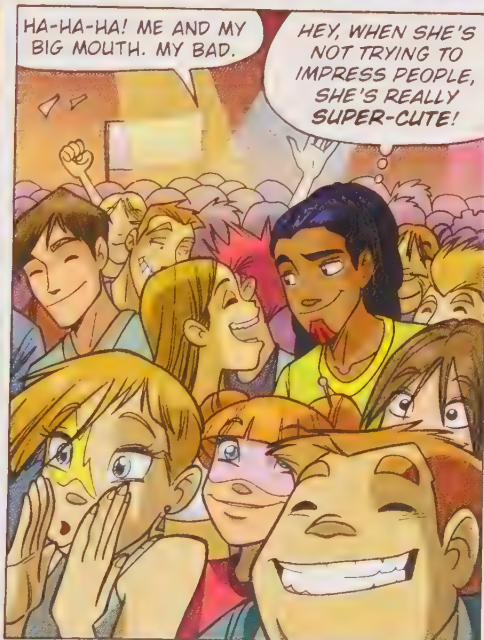
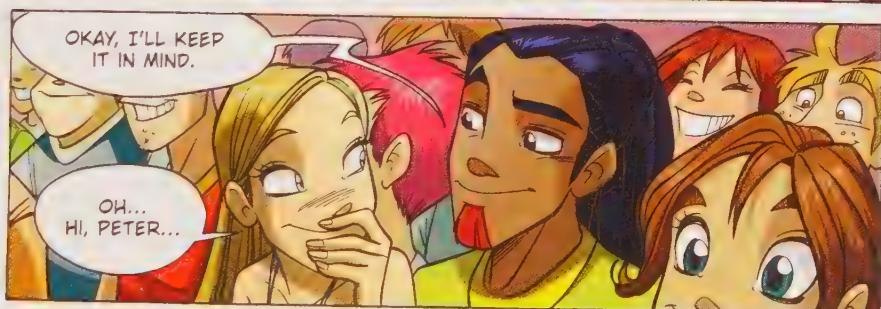
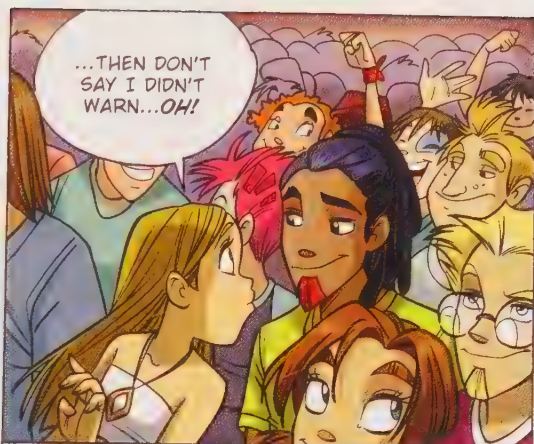


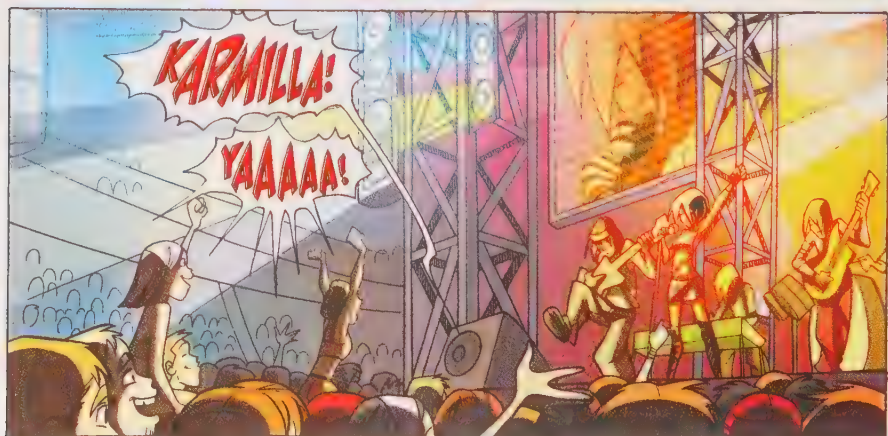
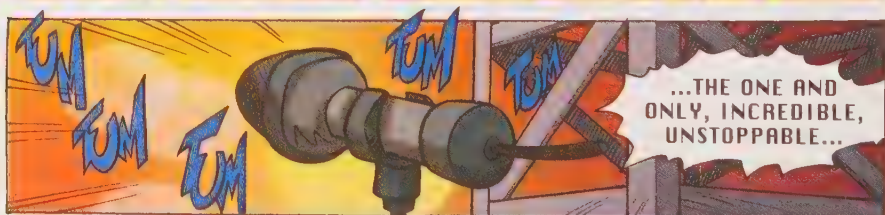
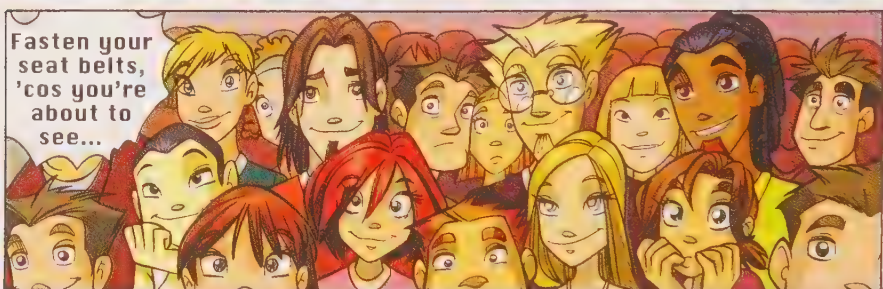
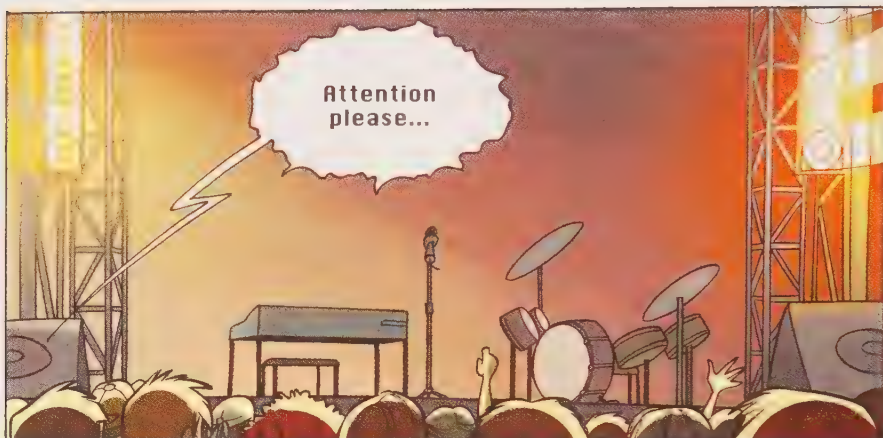
NICE
T-SHIRT,
DUDE!

HEY, I WAS
GONNA SAY
THAT!











TIME FOR SOME GREAT MUSIC,
GUYS. LET'S ROCK!

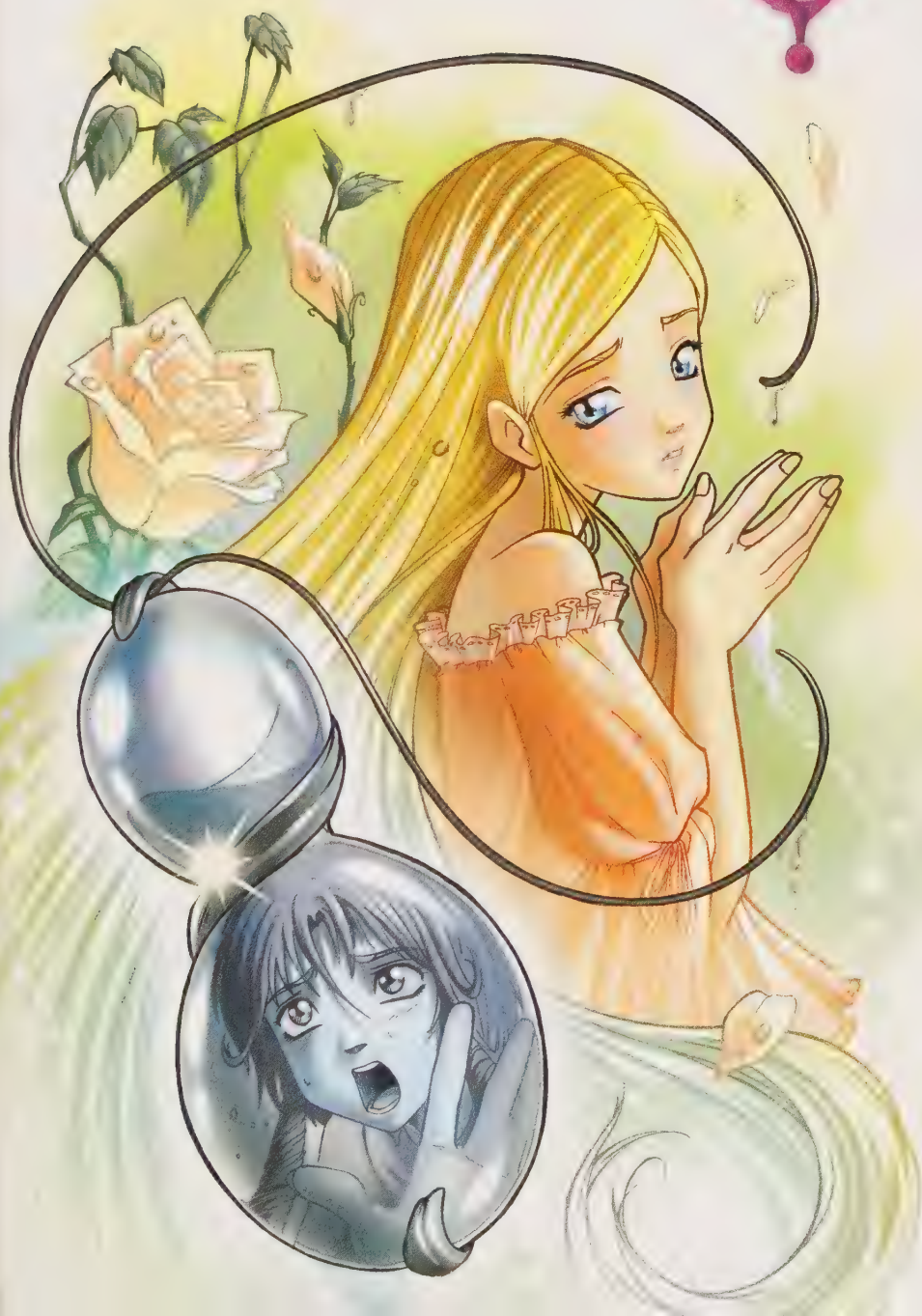
63

THERE'LL BE TIME ENOUGH
FOR WORRYING WHEN THE
MAGIC OF MUSIC IS OVER...

END OF
CHAPTER 41

Witch

Will Irma Juanita Cornelia May Lin

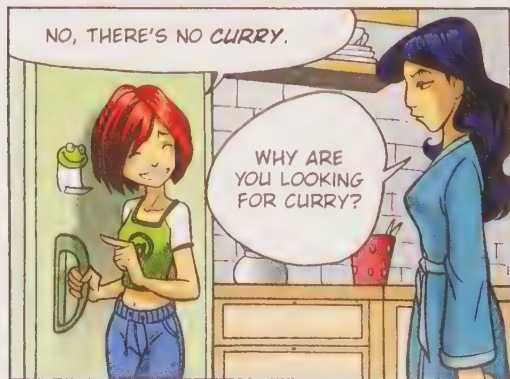
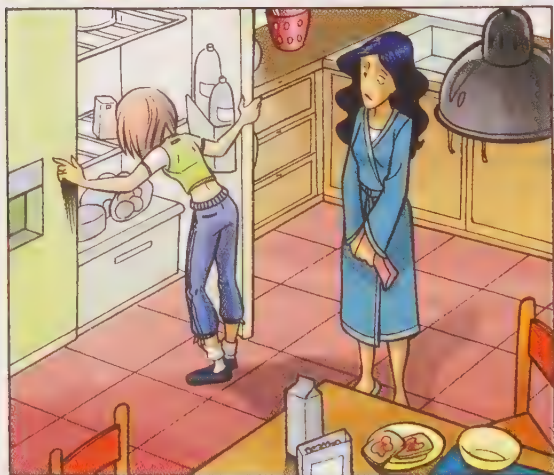


No Hope

"We've got nothing left—
no weapons, no hope..."







I ASKED IF YOU WERE IN A HURRY, NOT TO LOOK FOR SOME CURRY.

WELL...HURRY, CURRY...EASY MISTAKE!

YEEEEES?

WILL?

YOU SURE NOTHING'S UP?

HUH... WELL...

I MEAN...WANNA HEAR IT? ARE YOU READY?

I HOPE SO...

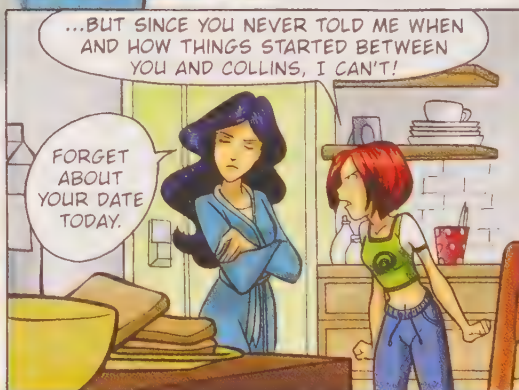
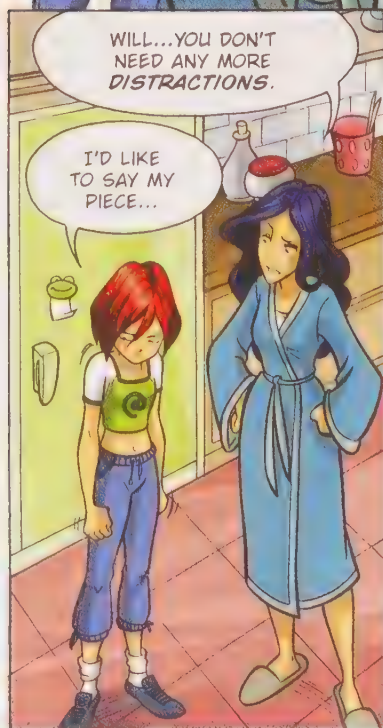
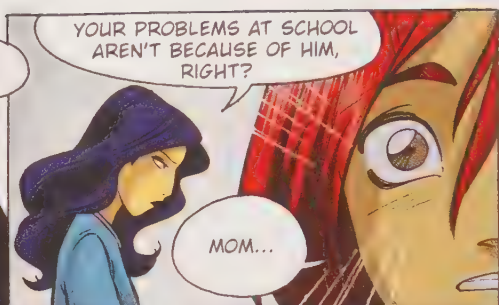
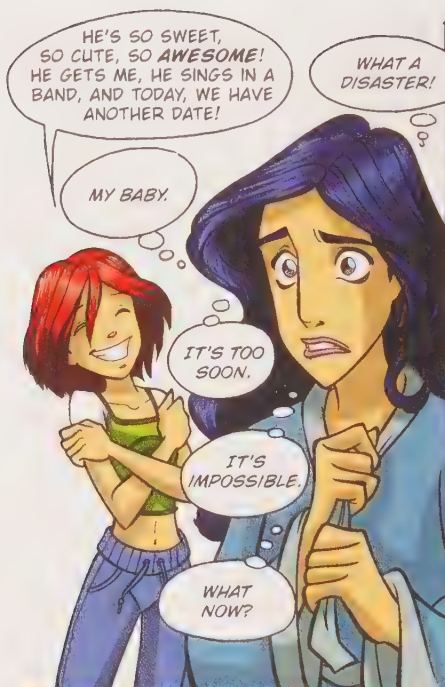
MOM...YOU KNOW MATT, RIGHT?

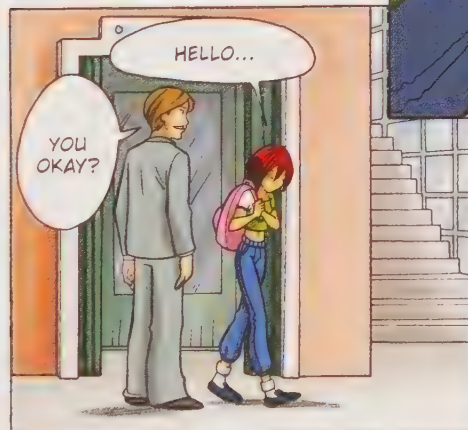
OF COURSE.

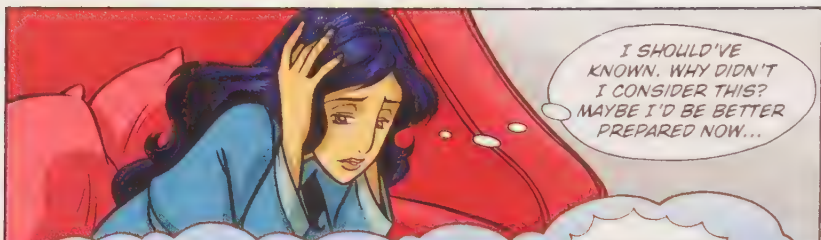
WELL...I... I MEAN, HE... I MEAN...

YOU LIKE HIM A LOT, RIGHT?

GUESS WHAT... WE KISSED!







I SHOULD'VE KNOWN. WHY DIDN'T I CONSIDER THIS? MAYBE I'D BE BETTER PREPARED NOW...



WAAAAAIT!



IS THAT ENOUGH BREEZE?

HMM...JUST.



TODAY'S OUR ANNIVERSARY!

I HATE CAKES!



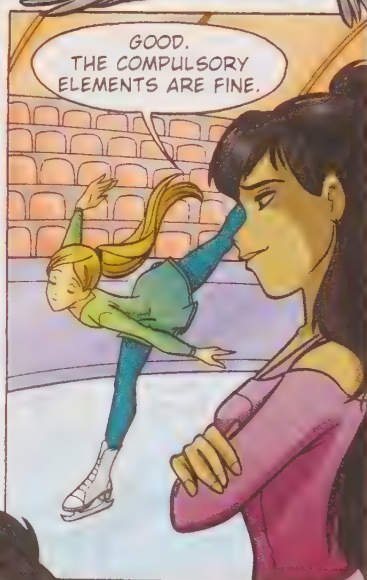
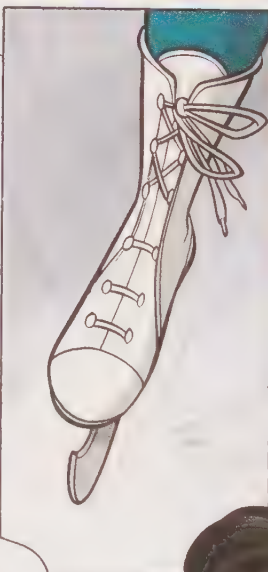
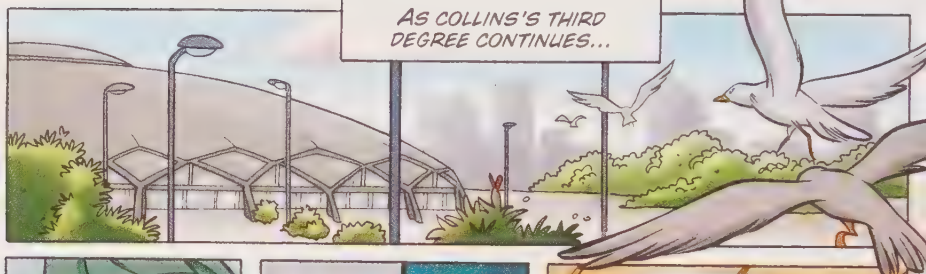
**RING
RING**

I'M COMING!

CALM DOWN, SUSAN. YOU'RE OVERREACTING.



AS COLLINS'S THIRD
DEGREE CONTINUES...

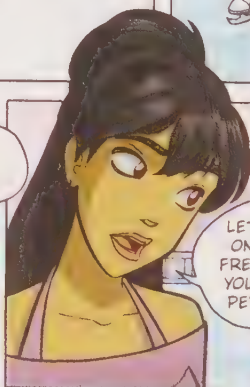


GOOD.
THE COMPULSORY
ELEMENTS ARE FINE.

IF SHE KEEPS
THIS UP, THEY'LL
PICK HER FOR THE
TOURNAMENT.

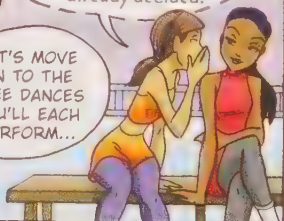
I WOULDN'T
BE SO SURE.

MY MONEY'S
ON YOU. YOUR
JUMPS ARE MORE
POWERFUL.

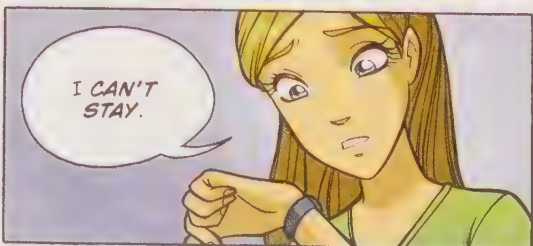


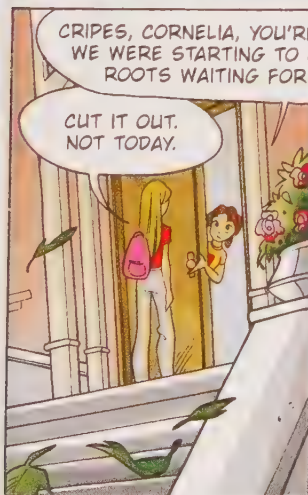
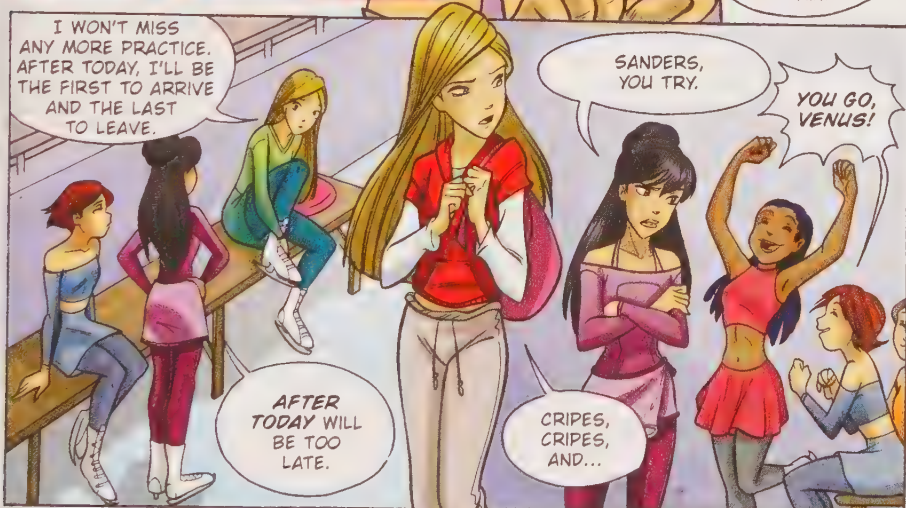
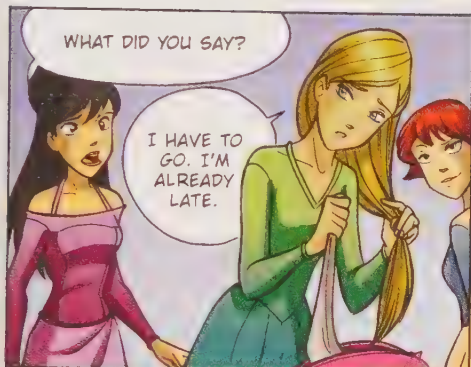
MISS PINNEY wouldn't
keep us all day if she'd
already decided.

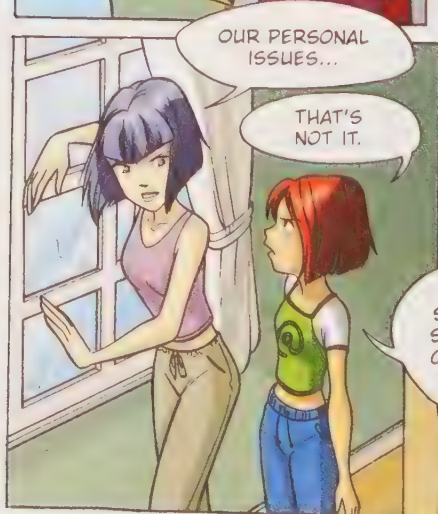
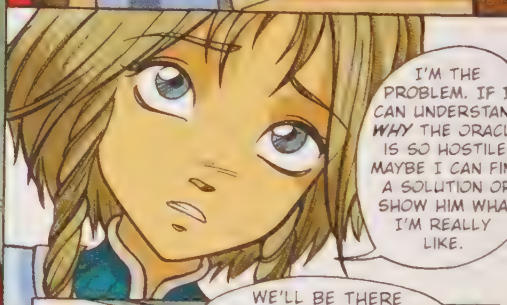
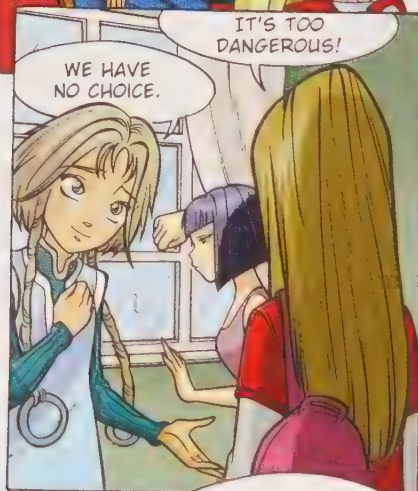
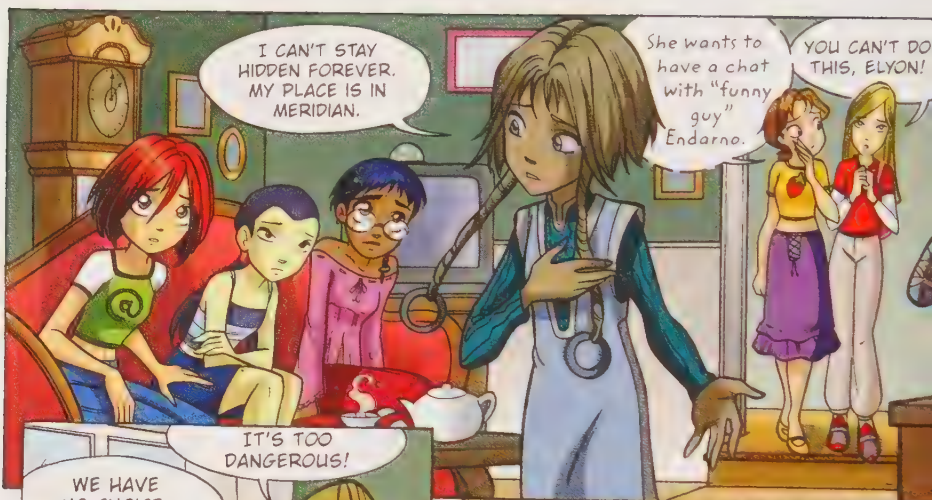
LET'S MOVE
ON TO THE
FREE DANCES
YOU'LL EACH
PERFORM...

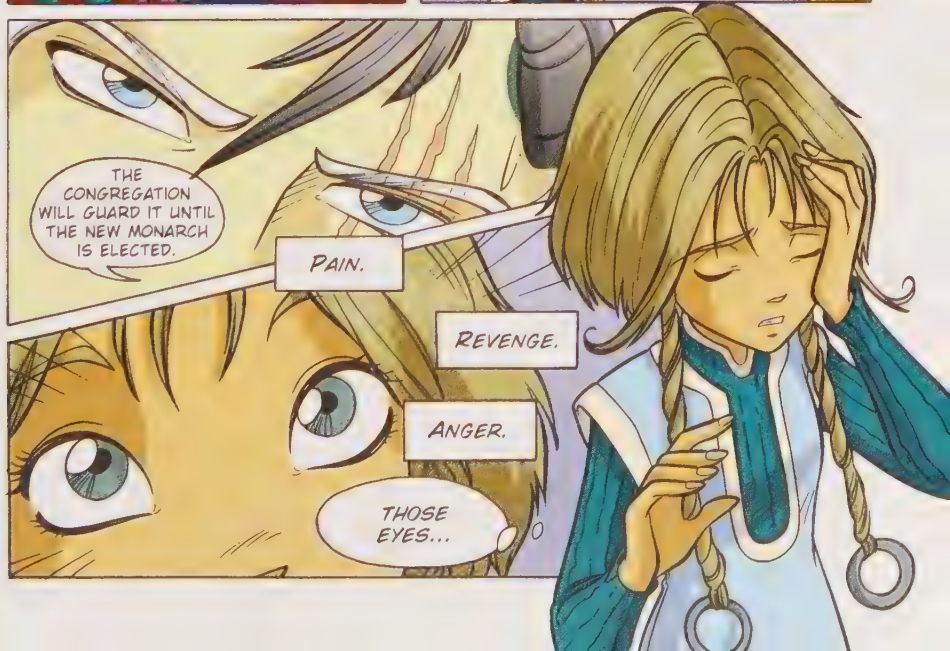
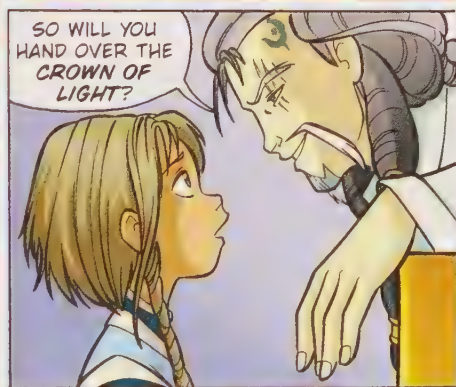
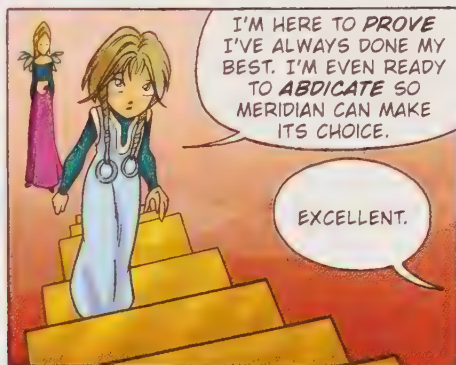


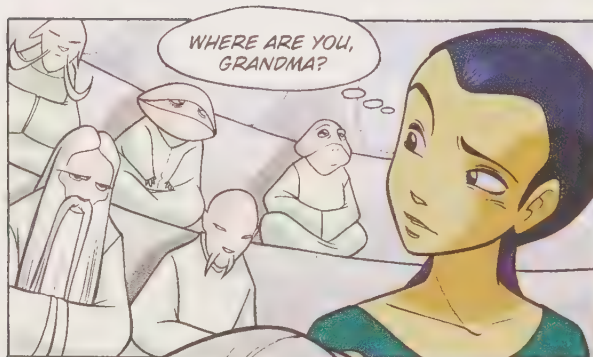
I CAN'T
STAY.





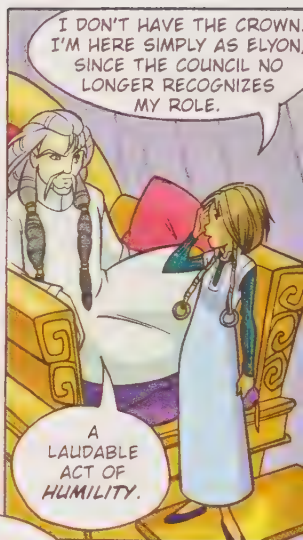






WHERE ARE YOU,
GRANDMA?

I'LL SEND
KANDRAKAR'S
GUARDIANS TO
FETCH IT.



I DON'T HAVE THE CROWN.
I'M HERE SIMPLY AS ELYON,
SINCE THE COUNCIL NO
LONGER RECOGNIZES
MY ROLE.

A
LAUDABLE
ACT OF
HUMILITY.



TELL THEM
WHERE IT IS.

WHAT'S HE
GETTING AT?

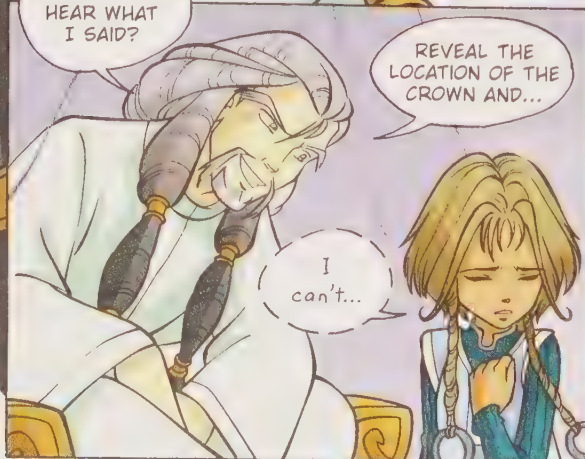
I DON'T
KNOW, BUT
I DON'T LIKE
IT.



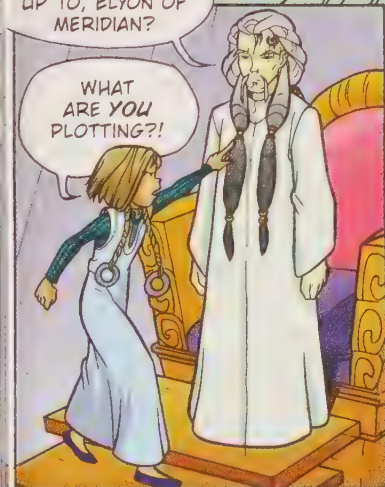
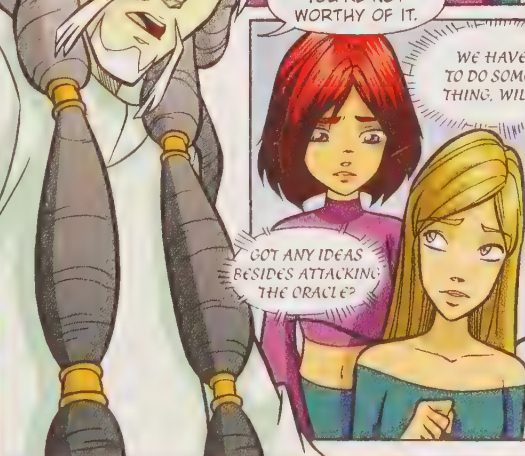
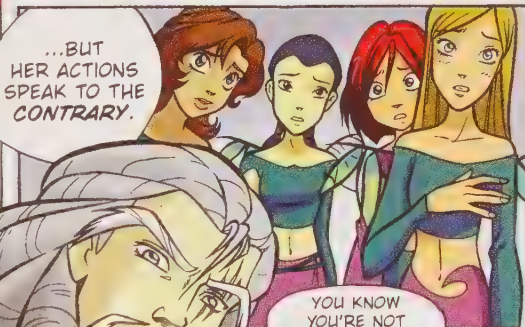
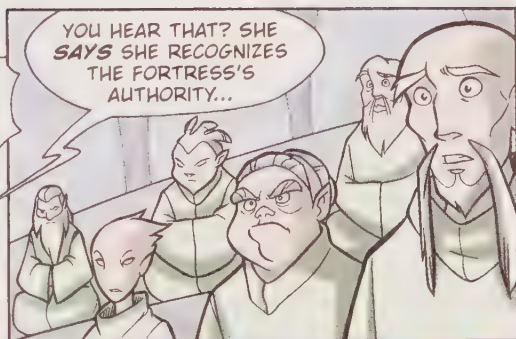
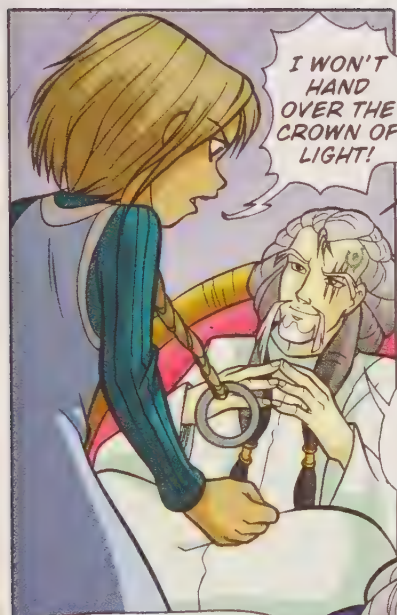
DID YOU
HEAR WHAT
I SAID?

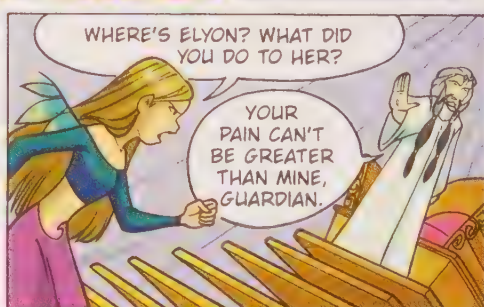
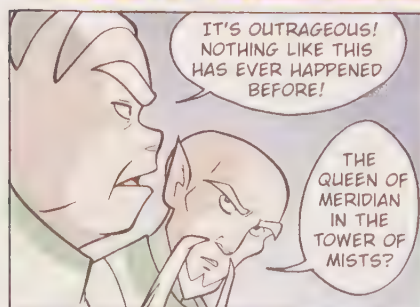
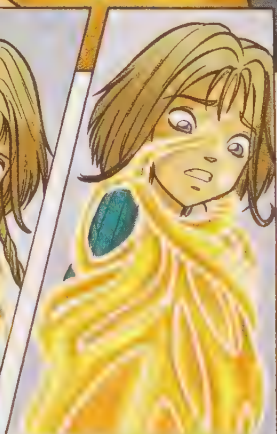
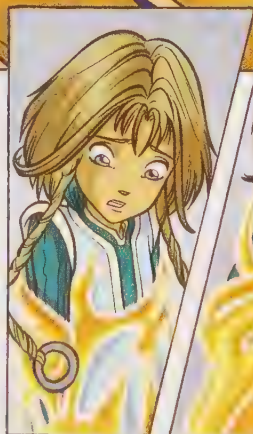
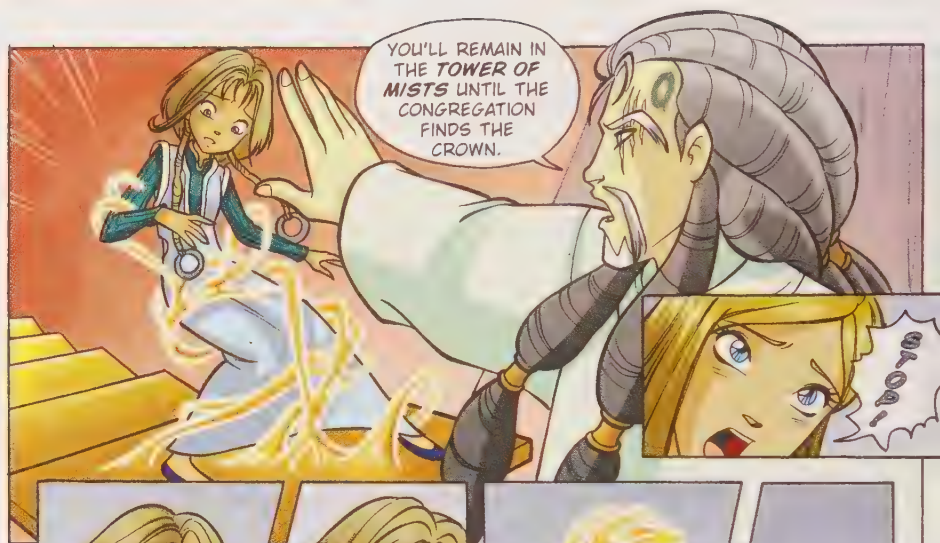
REVEAL THE
LOCATION OF THE
CROWN AND...

I
can't...



WHAT?





BASILIADE, THE WORLD
OF ORUBE...

...AND
OF A
MAN
WHO
WAN-
DERS...

ALONE.

WITHOUT A NAME.
WITHOUT MEMORIES.

WHO ARE
YOU?

YOU LOST
YOUR POSITION
AND YOURSELF.

NOW YOU'RE
NOTHING.

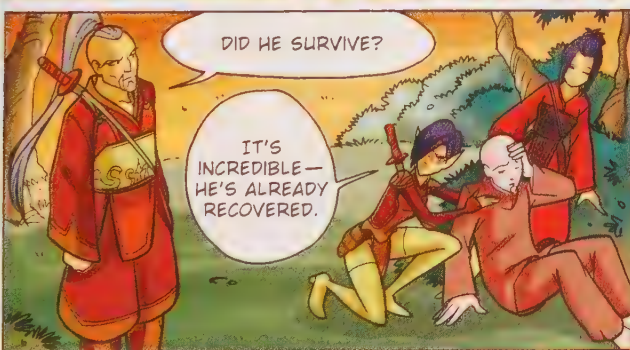
"YOU'VE ALWAYS
BEEN NOTHING."



KILUBI,
QUICK!

YES,
MASTER
YARR!





"IT CAN'T
BE HIM.
IT CAN'T
BE."

I'M READY,
MASTER.

THEN
ATTACK ME.

AAAAH

MMF...

ARE YOU
ALL RIGHT?

NO ONE'S EVER SURVIVED AN
ATTACK LIKE THAT BEFORE.

I AM SURPRISED
TOO. I JUST LET
YOU DO IT.

YOU CHAMP
AT THE BIT
LIKE A **RAGING
STALLION**. YOUR
STRENGTH WILL BE
GREAT IF YOU LEARN
TO USE IT WISELY.



TELL ME YOUR NAME.

I CANNOT ANSWER.



THEN THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WHO YOU ARE. **FIGHT!**

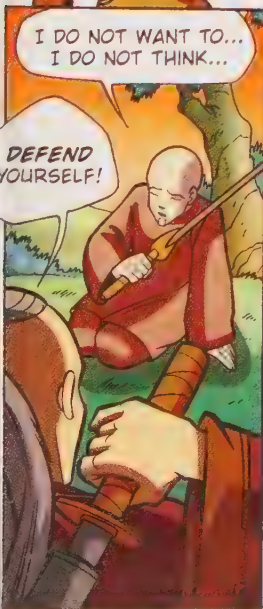


I DO NOT THINK I KNOW HOW.

TRY.



GIVEN HOW YOU CAUGHT THAT SWORD, IT SEEMS YOU'VE USED ONE BEFORE.

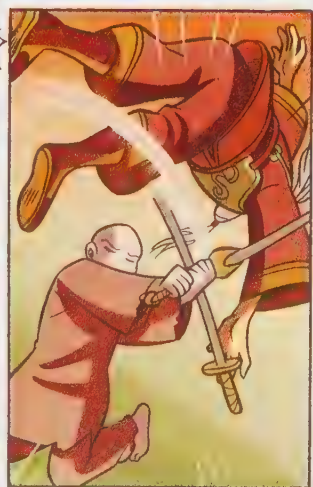


I DO NOT WANT TO...
I DO NOT THINK...

DEFEND YOURSELF!



AAAAH



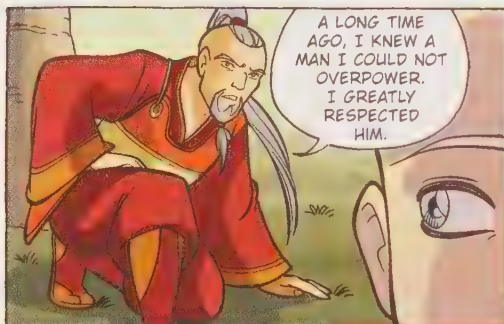


YARR DEFEATED?
THAT'S A FIRST.

I...I DO
APOLOGIZE...

WE SHOULD'VE
LEFT HIM IN THE
LAKE...

DON'T
SAY THAT.



A LONG TIME
AGO, I KNEW A
MAN I COULD NOT
OVERPOWER.
I GREATLY
RESPECTED
HIM.



BUT
YOU CAN'T
BE HIM.



"UNFORTUNATELY,
HE LEFT."

KEEP LOOKING.
WE WON'T REST UNTIL
WE FIND OUR
MASTER!



Basiliade has
lost a great
guide.



But we
have lost
much
more.



WE HAVE
TO MAKE A
DECISION ABOUT
YOUR FUTURE,
MAN WITH
NO NAME.

I SENSE
YOUR WORRY,
BROTHERS, BUT
FEAR NOT...

THE LIGHT OF
MERIDIAN WILL BE IN
THE TOWER ONLY
TEMPORARILY.

WHADDA WE DO,
WILL?

TRY TO FIGURE
OUT HIS
PLANS.

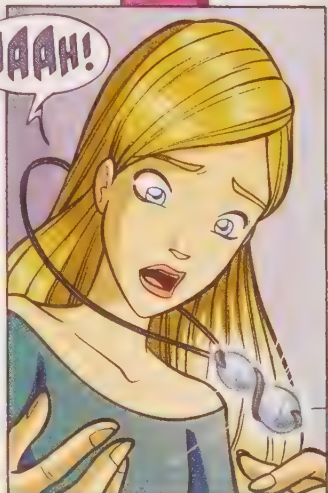
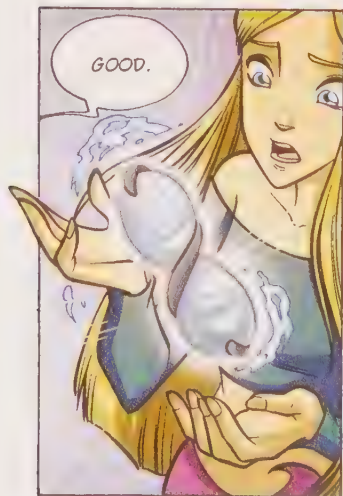
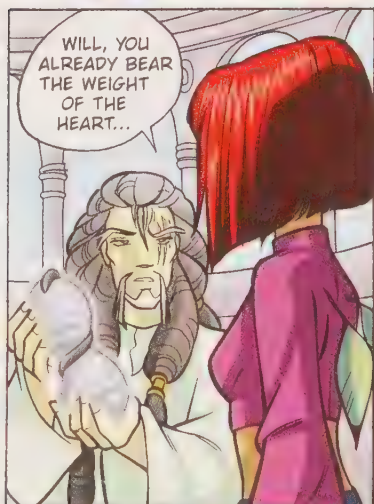
GUARDIANS, GO TO MERIDIAN
AND GET THE CROWN OF LIGHT. YOU'LL
HAND IT TO THE ORACLE AT THE
NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

WITHOUT ASTRAL
DROPS, IT'S SUPER-HARD
TO LEAVE HEATHERFIELD.
WE'LL BE DISCOVERED.

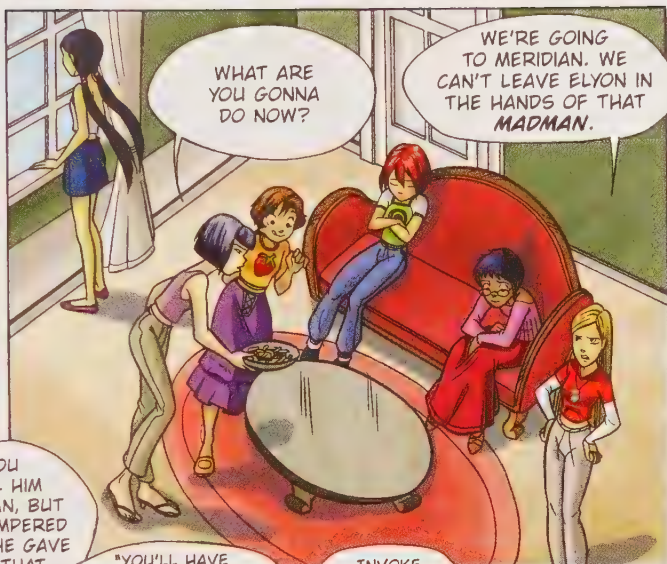
THAT'S WHY I
HAVE A GIFT
FOR YOU.

ARE YOU
KIDDING?

VAAL!



HEATHERFIELD.
BLACK CLOUDS
ARE GATHERING.



WHAT ARE
YOU GONNA
DO NOW?

WE'RE GOING
TO MERIDIAN. WE
CAN'T LEAVE ELYON IN
THE HANDS OF THAT
MADMAN.

YOU
CALL HIM
MADMAN, BUT
YOU SIMPERED
WHEN HE GAVE
YOU THAT
GIFT.

"YOU'LL HAVE
THE CROWN. I GIVE YOU
MY WORD."

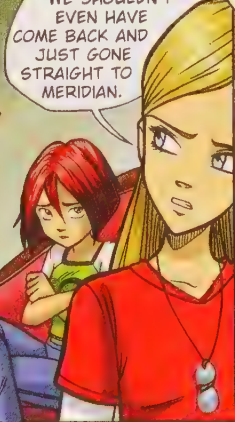
INVOKE
THE HEART, WILL.
WE SHOULDN'T
EVEN HAVE
COME BACK AND
JUST GONE
STRAIGHT TO
MERIDIAN.

WILL...

I'M NOT SURE
THAT'S THE
RIGHT THING
TO DO.



ELYON IS
BEING HELD
PRISONER!

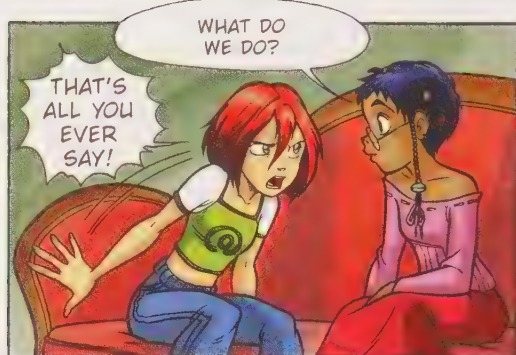


CALM DOWN,
CORNELIA. MAYBE
WILL HAS
AN IDEA.



I
KNOW
THAT.





WHAT DO WE DO?

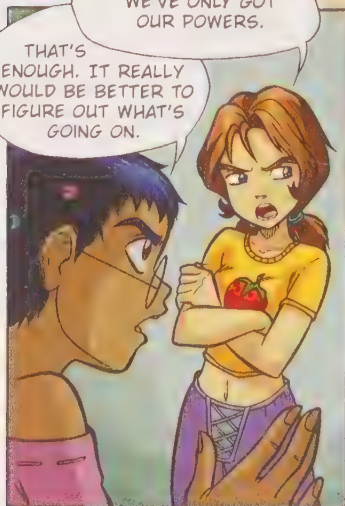
THAT'S ALL YOU EVER SAY!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE RIGHT MOVE IS. I DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON.

DO YOU KNOW WHY ENDARNO WANTS THE CROWN? WHY HE'S DOING WHAT HE IS? WHAT HE'S AFTER?

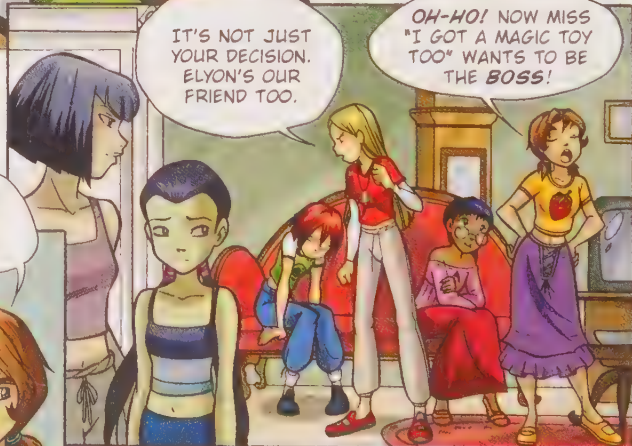


NO—AND NEITHER DO I, AND IF I GOTTA MAKE A DECISION, I WANNA UNDERSTAND BETTER.



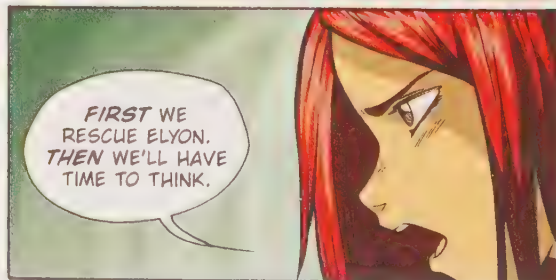
WHAT ABOUT US? WE'VE ONLY GOT OUR POWERS.

THAT'S ENOUGH. IT REALLY WOULD BE BETTER TO FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON.

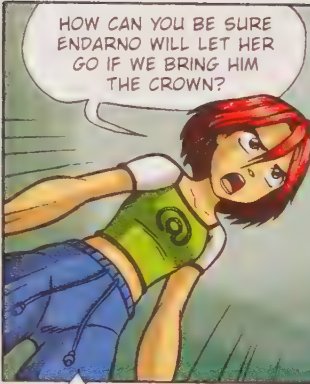


IT'S NOT JUST YOUR DECISION. ELYON'S OUR FRIEND TOO.

OH-HO! NOW MISS "I GOT A MAGIC TOY TOO" WANTS TO BE THE BOSS!



FIRST WE RESCUE ELYON. THEN WE'LL HAVE TIME TO THINK.



HOW CAN YOU BE SURE
ENDARNO WILL LET HER
GO IF WE BRING HIM
THE CROWN?



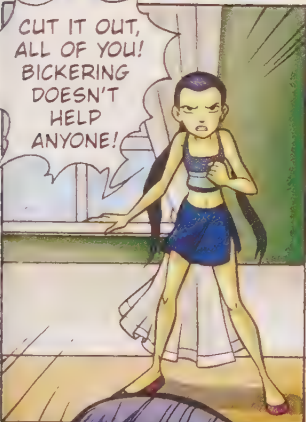
HE SAID HE WOULD
IN FRONT OF THE
WHOLE
COUNCIL!



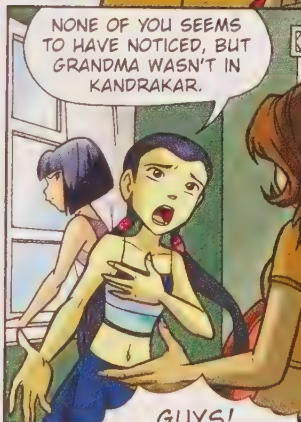
I'M NOT GOING
ANYWHERE UNTIL
WILL SAYS SO.



THIS ISN'T
SOME STUPID
COMPETITION.



CUT IT OUT,
ALL OF YOU!
BICKERING
DOESN'T
HELP
ANYONE!



NONE OF YOU SEEMS
TO HAVE NOTICED, BUT
GRANDMA WASN'T IN
KANDRAKAR.



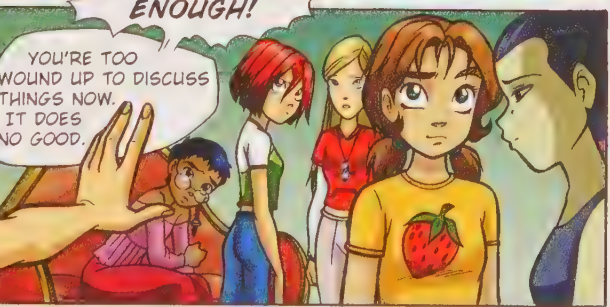
MAYBE SHE WAS
NAPPING.



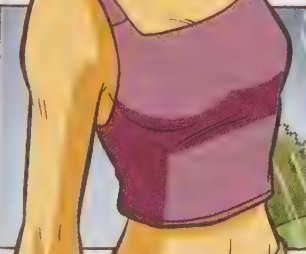
IRMA,
DON'T BE
RIDICULOUS.



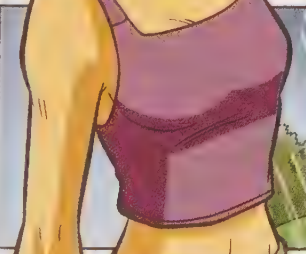
GUYS!
ENOUGH!



YOU'RE TOO
WOUND UP TO DISCUSS
THINGS NOW.
IT DOES
NO GOOD.



WE HAVE ONE DAY TO
THINK. WE'LL EACH COME
UP WITH A SOLUTION.



TOMORROW, WE'LL
MEET AGAIN TO MAKE
A JOINT DECISION.

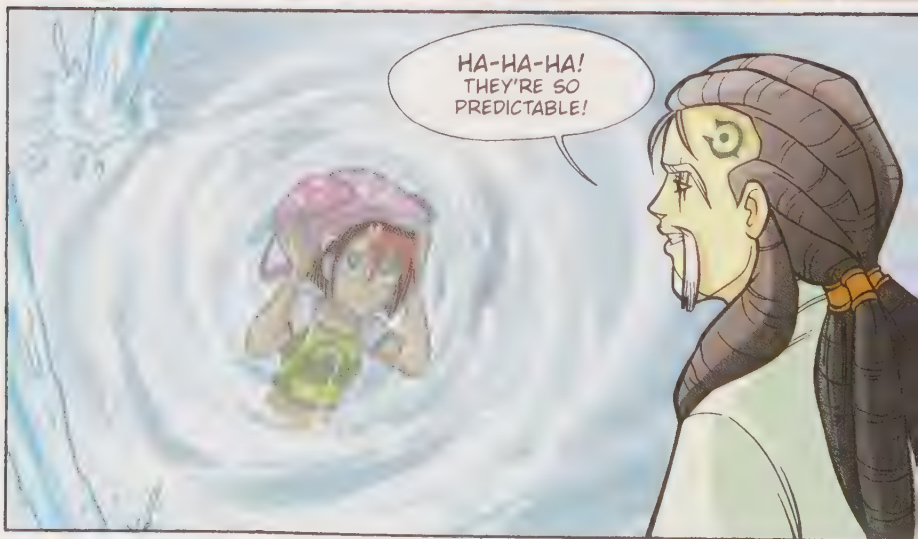
THEY'VE ALWAYS
KNOWN IT.

THEIR STRENGTH
LIES IN THEIR UNITY.

IN BEING A GROUP.

BUT SOMEONE
KNOWS HOW TO MAKE
IT ALL CRUMBLE.

92



HA-HA-HA!
THEY'RE SO
PREDICTABLE!



YOUNG WILL
WILL SOON REALIZE
SHE CAN'T BEAR THE
HEART OF KANDRAKAR'S
WEIGHT ANYMORE.

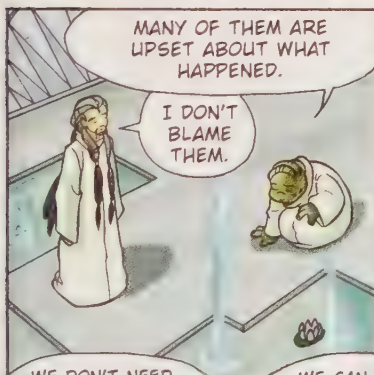


AND WHEN THE
HEART AND
CROWN OF
LIGHT,
TWO OF THE MOST
POWERFUL
ARTIFACTS
IN THE
UNIVERSE,
ARE IN MY
HANDS...

SIR...



COME, MY
FAITHFUL
VAAL. WHAT'S
THE
COUNCIL'S
MOOD?



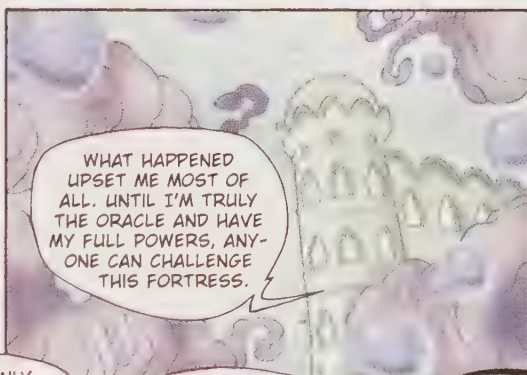
MANY OF THEM ARE
UPSET ABOUT WHAT
HAPPENED.

I DON'T
BLAME
THEM.

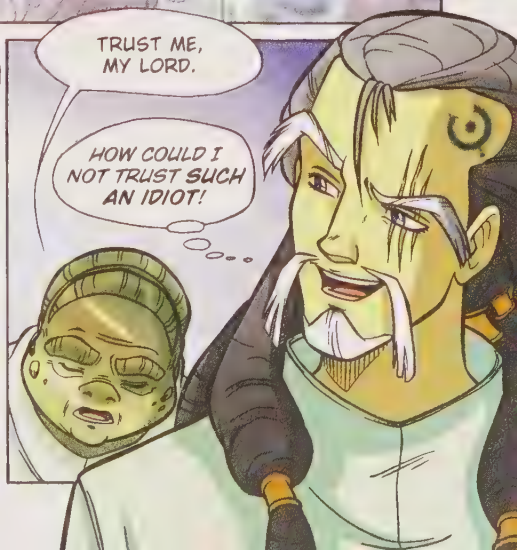


WE DON'T NEED
APPROVAL FROM
THE WHOLE COUNCIL.
KANDRAKAR CAN'T
AFFORD TO BE WITH-
OUT A GUIDE.

WE CAN ONLY
WAIT FOR THINGS TO
CHANGE. I KNOW HOW
HEAVY THE BURDEN
OF POWER IS, AND
I'M READY TO
BEAR IT.



WHAT HAPPENED
UPSET ME MOST OF
ALL. UNTIL I'M TRULY
THE ORACLE AND HAVE
MY FULL POWERS, ANY-
ONE CAN CHALLENGE
THIS FORTRESS.



TRUST ME,
MY LORD.

HOW COULD I
NOT TRUST SUCH
AN IDIOT!

THE TOWER OF MISTS.
KANDRAKAR'S PRISON.

TOP FLOOR.

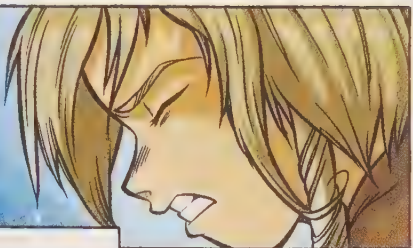
AAAAH!

A SINGLE CELL
CAN RESTRAIN THE
POWER OF THE LIGHT
OF MERIDIAN.

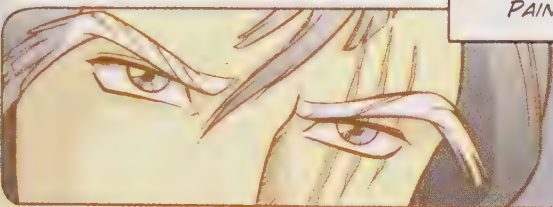
THESE
LIGHTS FEED ON
MY MAGIC. I NEED
TO STAY STILL.

BUT
WHY IS THIS
HAPPENING?

WHY ALL
THIS PAIN?



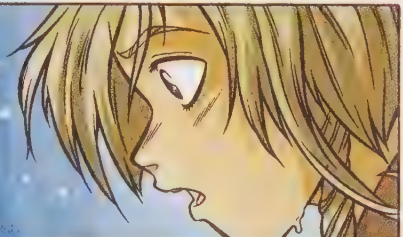
AND THOSE
EYES...



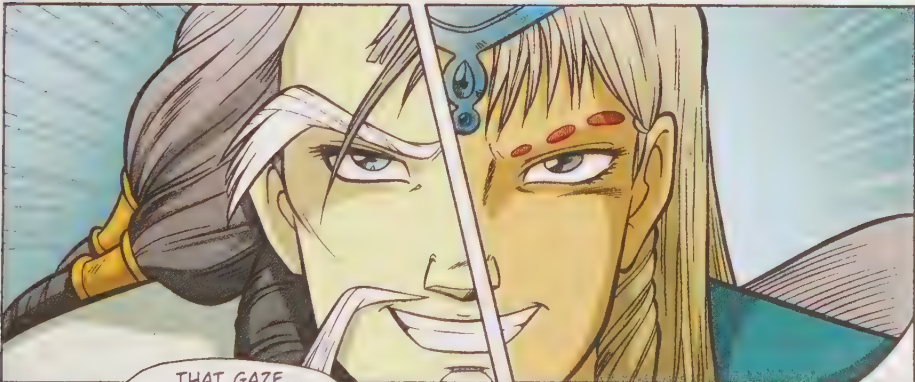
PAIN.

REVENGE.

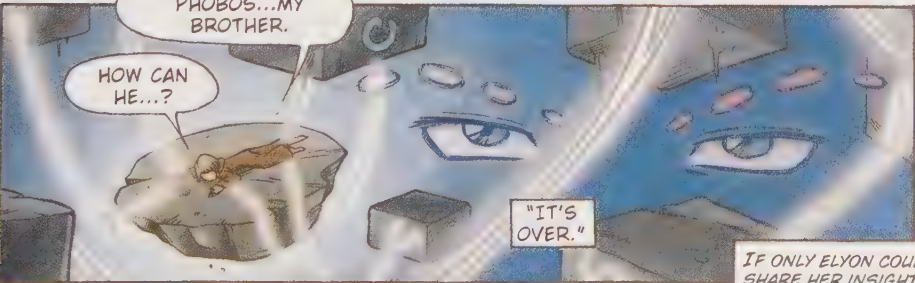
ANGER.



NO!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
IT CAN'T BE!



THAT GAZE...
PHOBOS...MY
BROTHER.



HOW CAN
HE...?

"IT'S
OVER."

IF ONLY ELYON COULD
SHARE HER INSIGHT...

"ELYON IS A PRISONER."

"YAN LIN IS MISSING."

"THINGS COULDN'T BE WORSE."

WILL!
YOU'RE EARLY.

**BLIIN
BLIIN**

AND YOU'RE SOAKED!
COME ON IN.

I'M SORRY.
I CAN'T STAY.

THEN I'LL WALK
YOU HOME. WHY CAN'T
YOU STAY?

96
I
MESSED
UP.

I TOLD MOM
ABOUT US, AND
SHE DOESN'T WANT
ME TO GO OUT
WITH YOU.

YOU
ALREADY
TOLD HER
ABOUT
US?

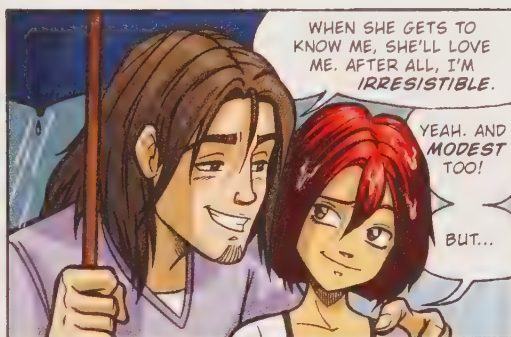
I KNOW I
SHOULDN'T HAVE
I THOUGHT SHE
BE HAPPY FOR
ME, BUT...

IT'LL BE A
NIGHTMARE EVERY
TIME WE WANNA
MEET UP.



DON'T BE SUCH A DOWNER! LET'S GIVE HER SOME TIME TO COME AROUND TO THE IDEA.

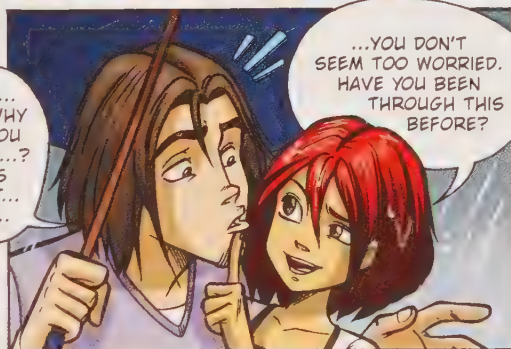
UGH... NO. WHY DO YOU THINK...? IT'S JUST... UM...



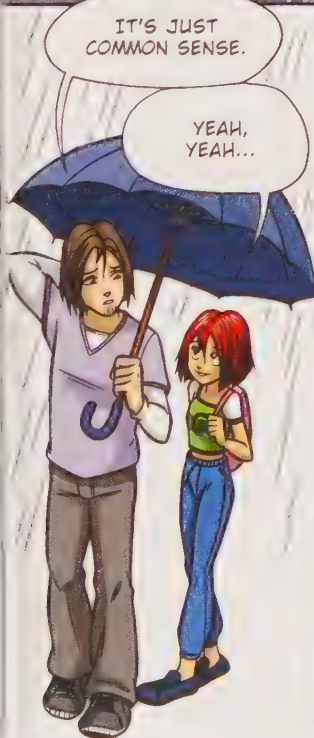
WHEN SHE GETS TO KNOW ME, SHE'LL LOVE ME. AFTER ALL, I'M **IRRESISTIBLE.**

YEAH. AND **MODEST** TOO!

BUT...



...YOU DON'T SEEM TOO WORRIED. HAVE YOU BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE?



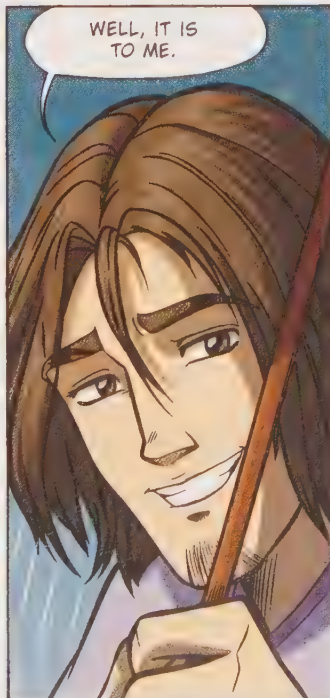
IT'S JUST COMMON SENSE.

YEAH, YEAH...

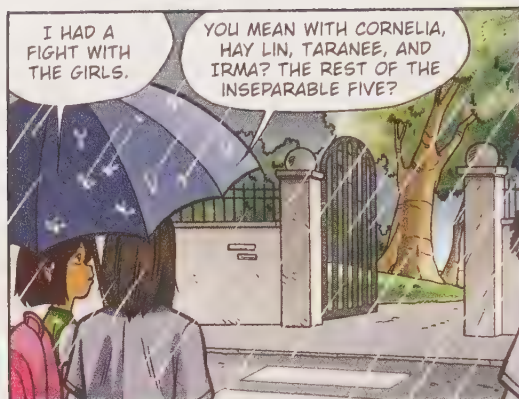


SURE THAT'S ALL THAT'S BOTHERING YOU?

IS IT SO OBVIOUS?



WELL, IT IS TO ME.



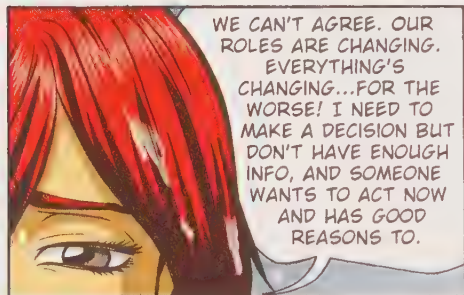
I HAD A
FIGHT WITH
THE GIRLS.

YOU MEAN WITH CORNELIA,
HAY LIN, TARANEE, AND
IRMA? THE REST OF THE
INSEPARABLE FIVE?



NO WAY.
WHAT
HAPPENED?

LET'S
SAY THE
PROBLEM
OUR *OTHER*
LIFE.

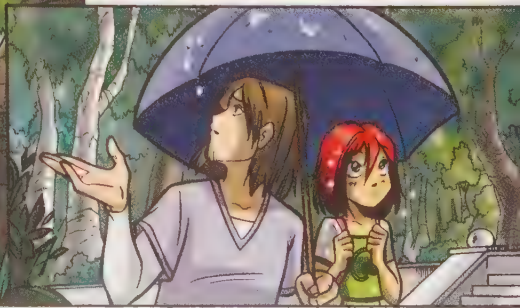
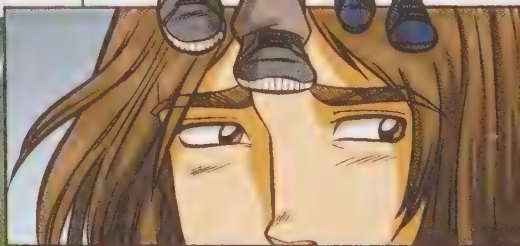


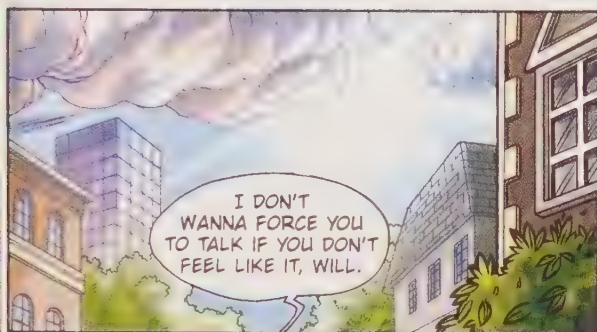
WE CAN'T AGREE. OUR
ROLES ARE CHANGING.
EVERYTHING'S
CHANGING...FOR THE
WORSE! I NEED TO
MAKE A DECISION BUT
DON'T HAVE ENOUGH
INFO, AND SOMEONE
WANTS TO ACT NOW
AND HAS GOOD
REASONS TO.



RIGHT, SPELL IT
OUT. MAYBE WE'LL
FIND A SOLUTION
TOGETHER.

I ALREADY SAID
TOO MUCH. IF THE
OTHERS FIND OUT
YOU KNOW, IT'LL
ONLY MAKE MATTERS
WORSE.





I DON'T WANNA FORCE YOU TO TALK IF YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE IT, WILL.

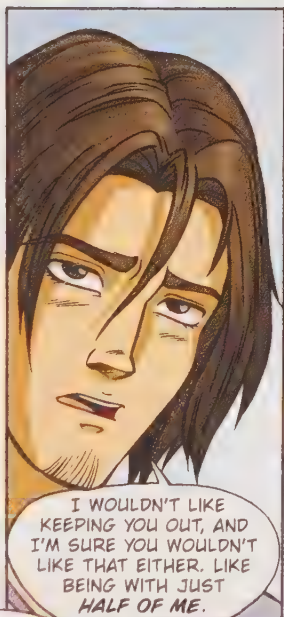


I JUST WISH YOU'D TRUST ME.

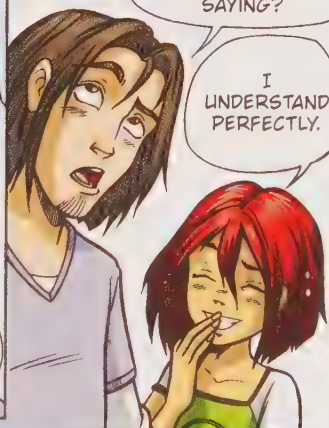
IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT ME.



HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF THERE WAS AN AREA OF MY LIFE YOU COULDN'T BE A PART OF?

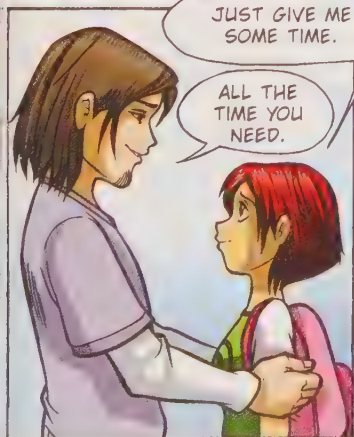


I WOULDN'T LIKE KEEPING YOU OUT, AND I'M SURE YOU WOULDN'T LIKE THAT EITHER. LIKE BEING WITH JUST **HALF OF ME.**



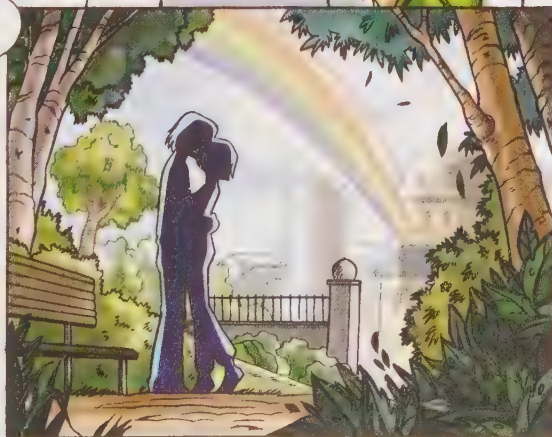
HALF OF ME? WHAT AM I SAYING?

I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY.

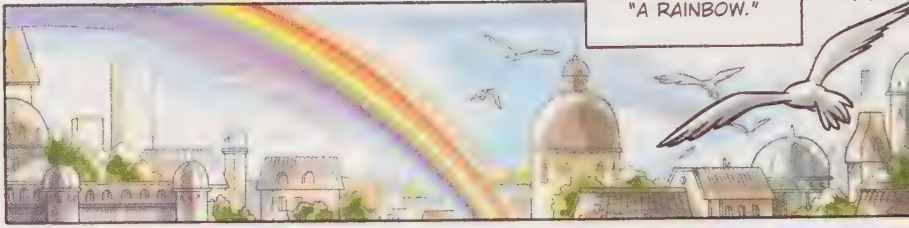


JUST GIVE ME SOME TIME.

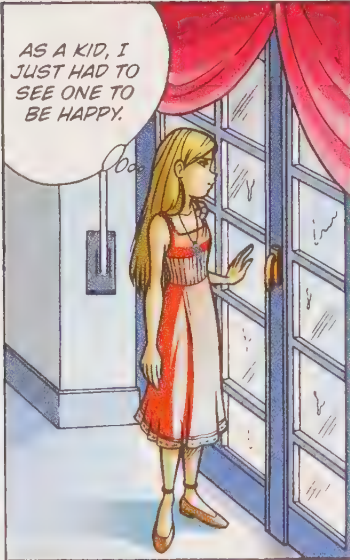
ALL THE TIME YOU NEED.



"A RAINBOW."

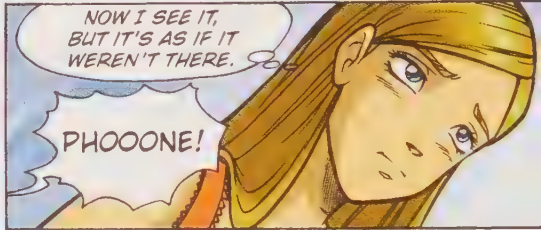


AS A KID, I
JUST HAD TO
SEE ONE TO
BE HAPPY.



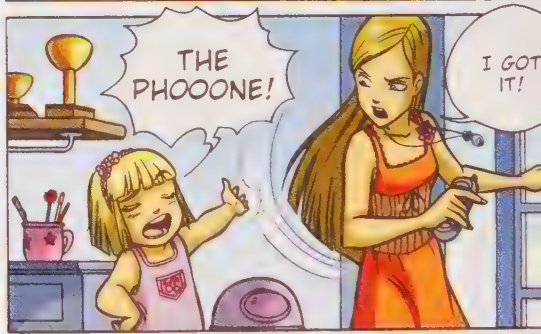
NOW I SEE IT,
BUT IT'S AS IF IT
WEREN'T THERE.

PHOOONE!

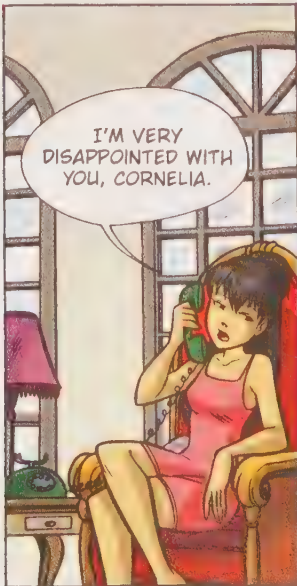


THE
PHOOONE!

I GOT
IT!

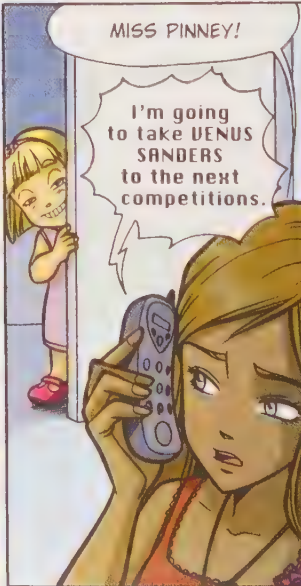


I'M VERY
DISAPPOINTED WITH
YOU, CORNELIA.

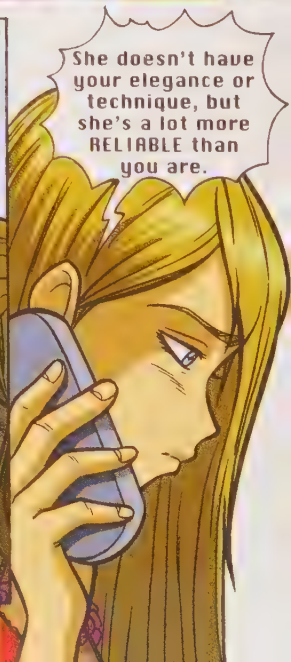


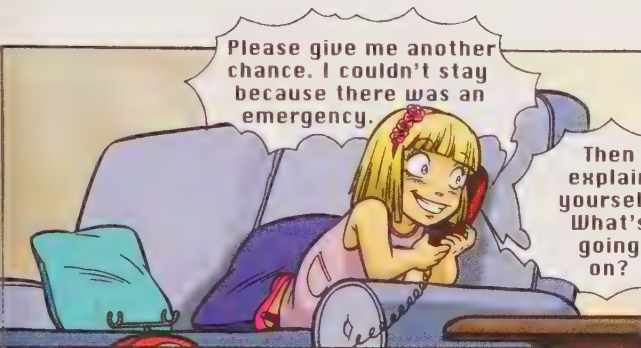
MISS PINNEY!

I'm going
to take VENUS
SANDERS
to the next
competitions.



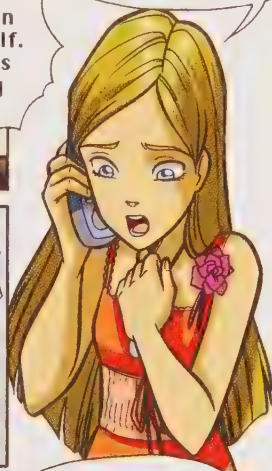
She doesn't have
your elegance or
technique, but
she's a lot more
RELIABLE than
you are.





Please give me another chance. I couldn't stay because there was an emergency.

Then explain yourself. What's going on?

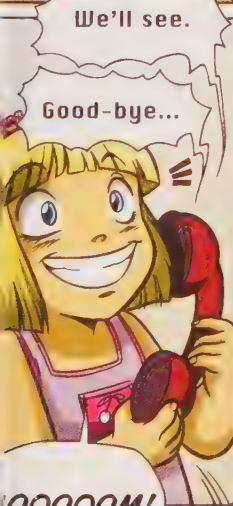


A FRIEND IS IN TROUBLE. SERIOUS TROUBLE. AS SOON AS IT'S RESOLVED, I'LL PROVE I'M AS RELIABLE AS VENUS. EVEN MORE SO!



AND IF YOUR FRIEND HAS ANOTHER EMERGENCY? THE COMPETITIONS CAN'T WAIT FOR YOUR FRIEND'S MOOD.

The choice is yours...



We'll see.

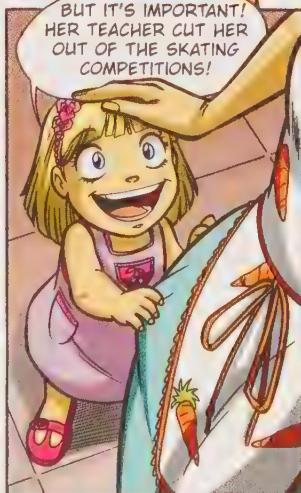
Good-bye...

OOOOOM!

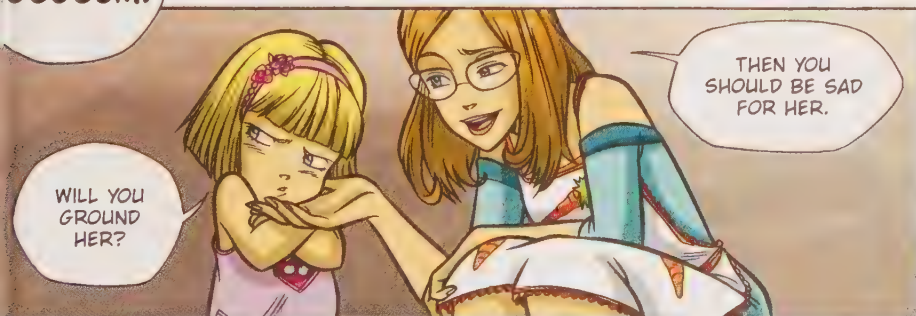


I KNOW A SECRET! I KNOW A SECRET!

LILIAN, YOU'VE GOT TO STOP SPYING ON YOUR SISTER.



BUT IT'S IMPORTANT! HER TEACHER CUT HER OUT OF THE SKATING COMPETITIONS!

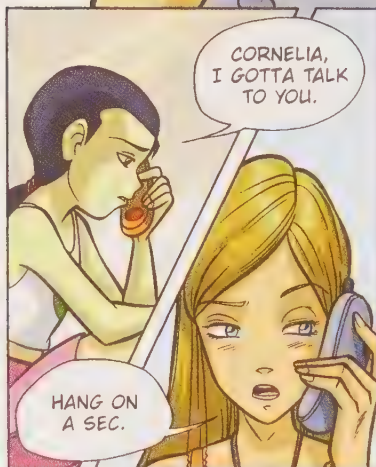


WILL YOU GROUND HER?

THEN YOU SHOULD BE SAD FOR HER.

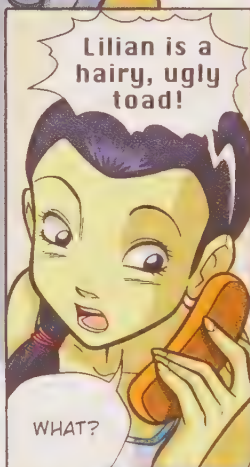


BRUIIP BRUIIP



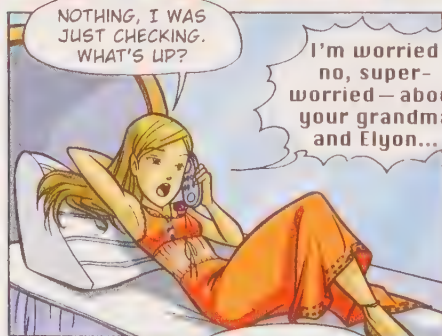
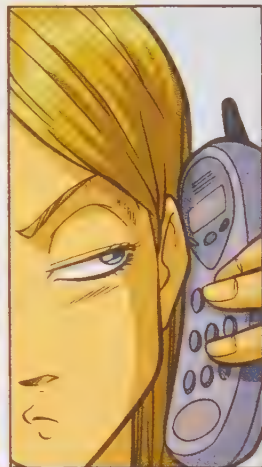
CORNELIA,
I GOTTA TALK
TO YOU.

HANG ON
A SEC.



Lilian is a
hairsty, ugly
toad!

WHAT?

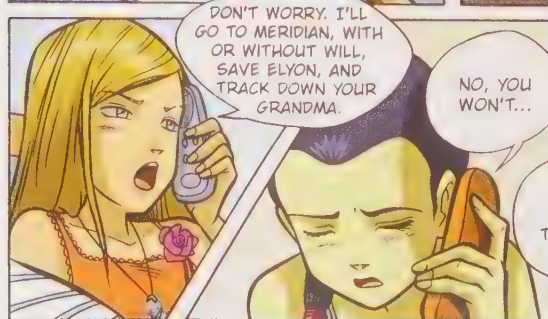


NOTHING, I WAS
JUST CHECKING.
WHAT'S UP?

I'm worried—
no, super-
worried—about
your grandma
and Elyon...

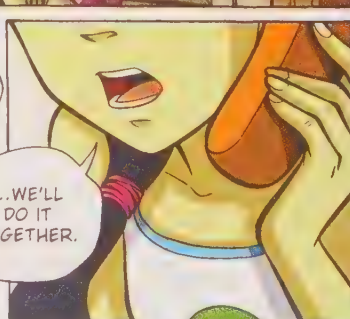


I AGREE WITH YOU.
WE GOTTA GET THE
CROWN, FREE ELYON,
AND FIND OUT WHERE
GRANDMA IS.



DON'T WORRY. I'LL
GO TO MERIDIAN, WITH
OR WITHOUT WILL,
SAVE ELYON, AND
TRACK DOWN YOUR
GRANDMA.

NO, YOU
WON'T...



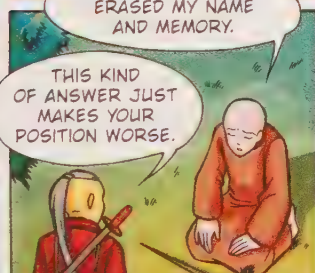
...WE'LL
DO IT
TOGETHER.



BASILIADE.
THE BLUE FOREST.

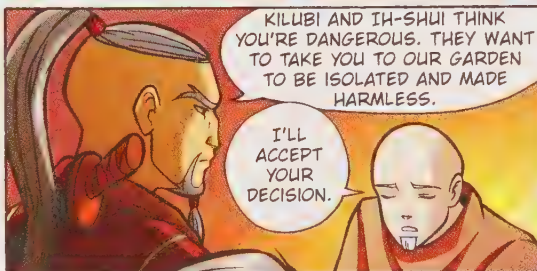


FOR THE
LAST TIME,
WHO ARE
YOU?



A LONG PATH
ERASED MY NAME
AND MEMORY.

THIS KIND
OF ANSWER JUST
MAKES YOUR
POSITION WORSE.



KILUBI AND IH-SHUI THINK
YOU'RE DANGEROUS. THEY WANT
TO TAKE YOU TO OUR GARDEN
TO BE ISOLATED AND MADE
HARMLESS.

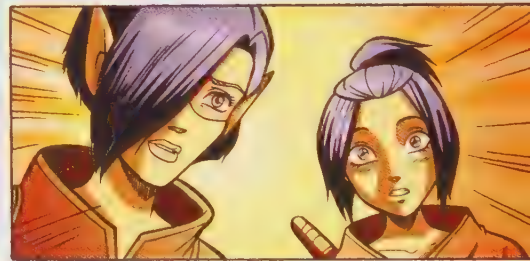
I'LL
ACCEPT
YOUR
DECISION.

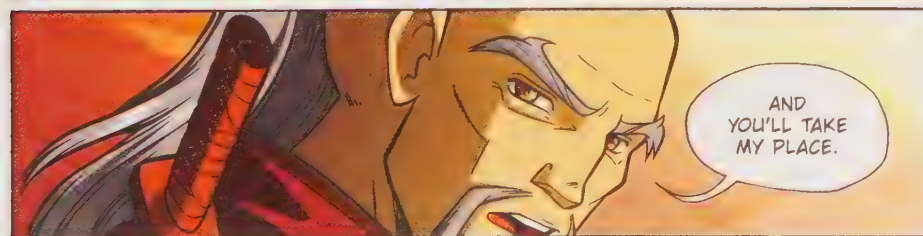
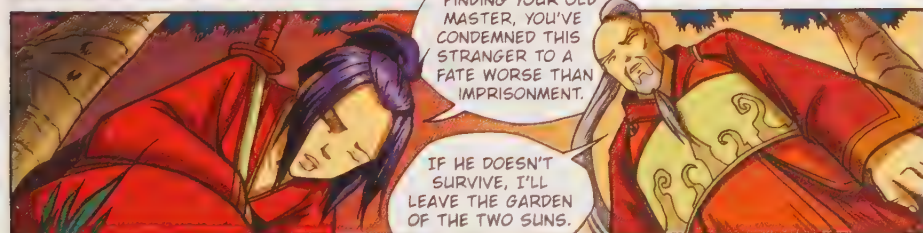
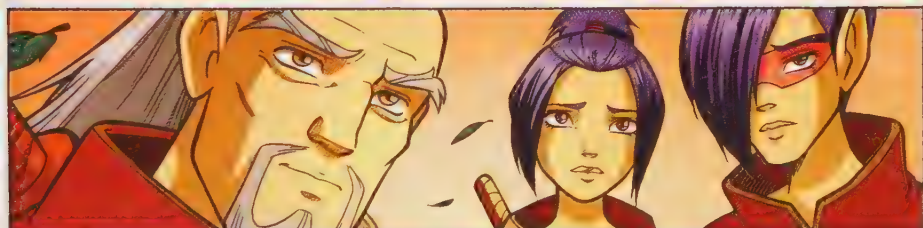
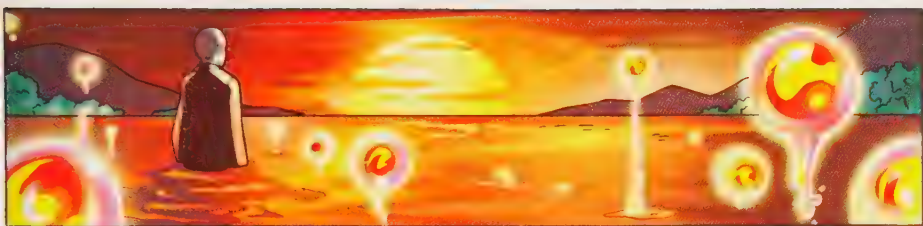


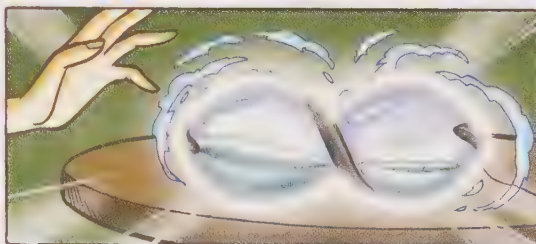
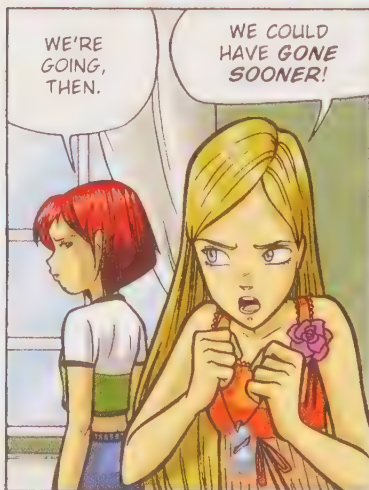
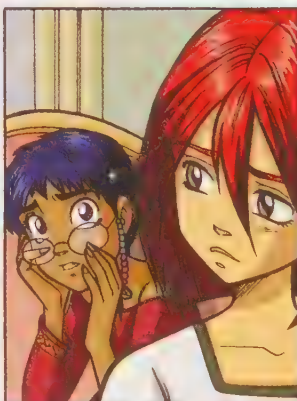
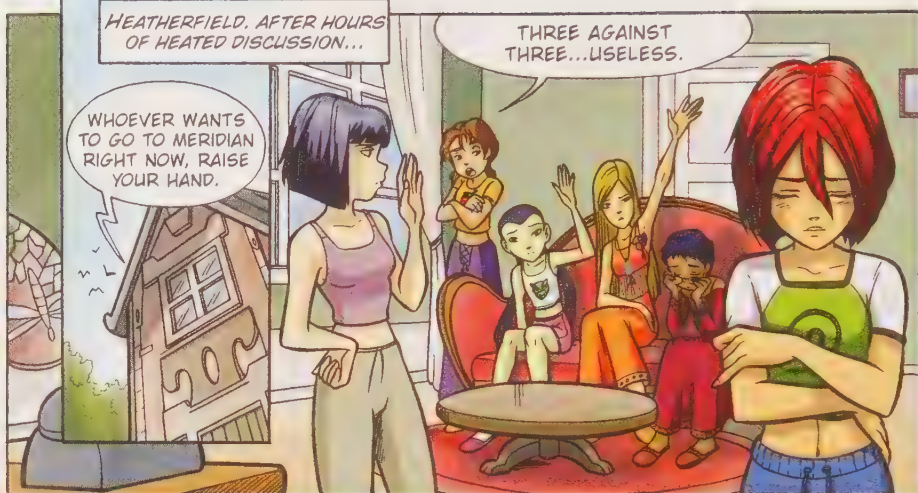
YOUR FACE
ALARMS ME, BUT
HAVING FOUGHT
YOU, YOU HAVE MY
RESPECT.

I GIVE YOU
THE CHANCE TO
FACE THE CREATURE
OF THE LAKE. IT
WILL SHOW YOU
YOURSELF.

YOU'LL
FIND YOUR
NAME AGAIN OR
SUCCUMB...







MERIDIAN

THIS DOESN'T
MAKE SENSE. WHAT'S
THIS EXCUSE FOR
AN ORACLE
THINKING?

DON'T ASK US.

*SINCE ELYON BECAME
QUEEN, MERIDIAN HAS
BEEN HAPPY.

"WHY ISN'T EYDARNO
CONTENT WITH HER
ABDICATION?"

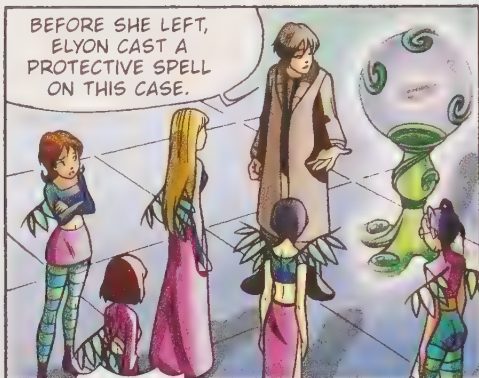
THE POWER OF THE
CROWN OF LIGHT CAN BE
DEVASTATING. YOU GOTTA
FIND OUT WHAT HE PLANS
TO DO WITH IT.

THERE'S
NO TIME FOR
THAT. TELL
US WHERE
IT IS.

I'LL SHOW
YOU RIGHT
NOW...

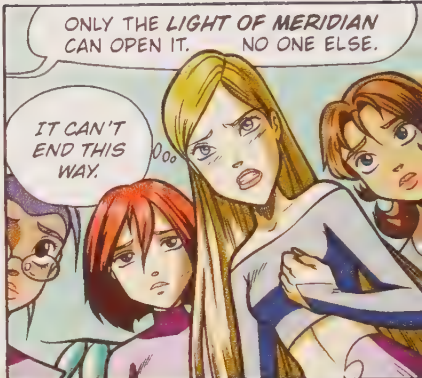
...BUT
YOU CAN'T
TAKE IT.

BEFORE SHE LEFT,
ELYON CAST A
PROTECTIVE SPELL
ON THIS CASE.



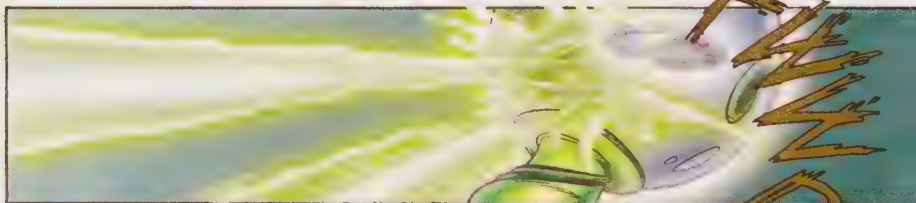
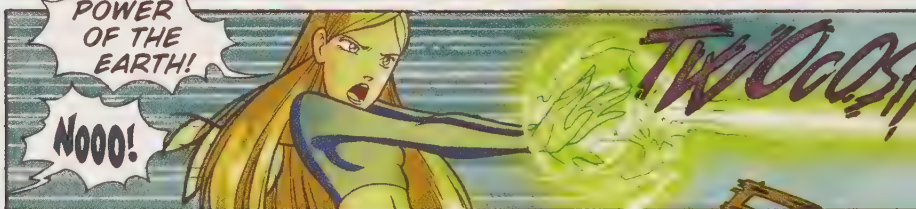
ONLY THE LIGHT OF MERIDIAN
CAN OPEN IT. NO ONE ELSE.

IT CAN'T
END THIS
WAY.

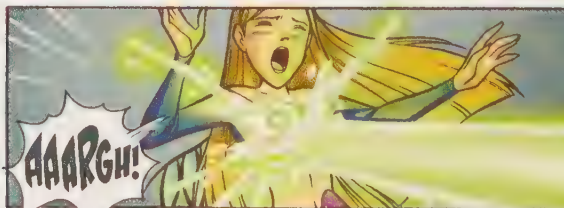


POWER
OF THE
EARTH!

NOOO!

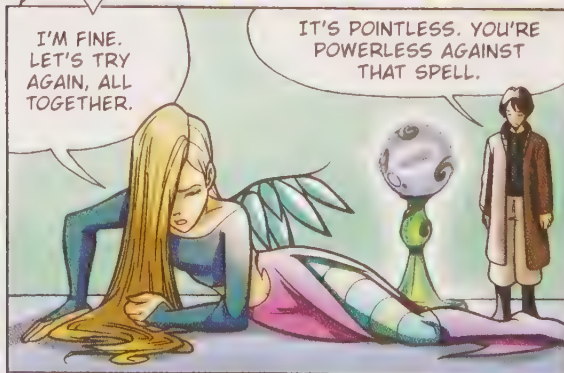


AAARGH!



I'M FINE.
LET'S TRY
AGAIN, ALL
TOGETHER.

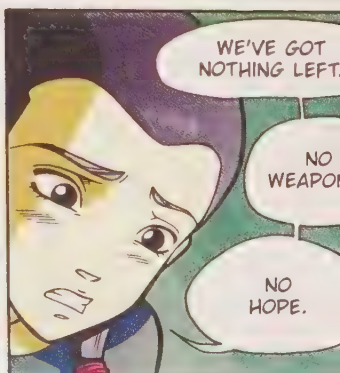
IT'S POINTLESS. YOU'RE
POWERLESS AGAINST
THAT SPELL.



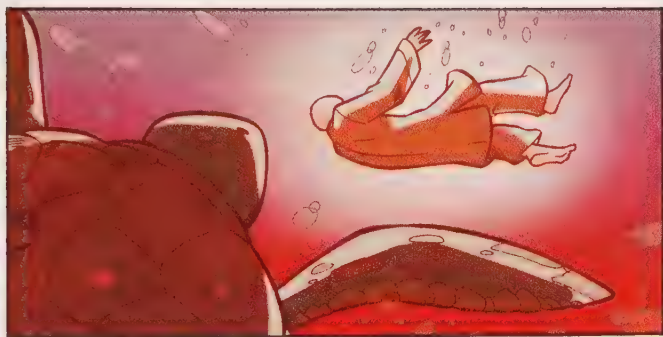
WE'VE GOT
NOTHING LEFT.

NO
WEAPON

NO
HOPE.



CRIMSON
LAKE



DON'T BE
AFRAID.



DON'T ASK
QUESTIONS
IF YOU WANT
ANSWERS.

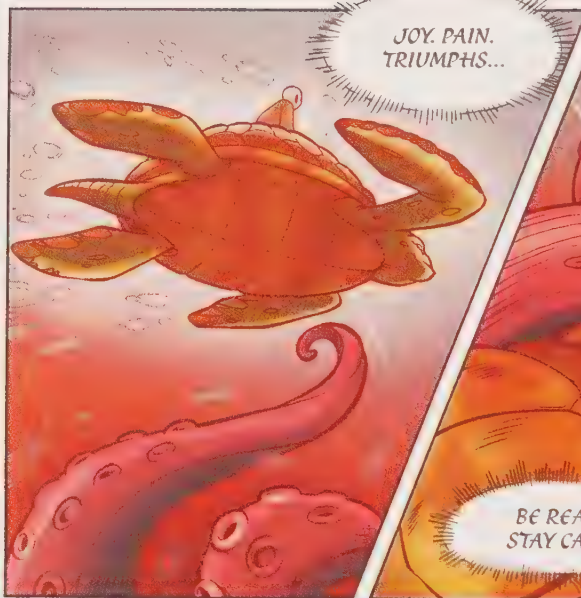


WHO
ARE YOU?
AND WHO AM
I? AND WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE?

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YOU'RE
ABOUT TO
RELIVE YOUR
ENTIRE
EXISTENCE.



JOY. PAIN.
TRIUMPHS...



BE READY.
STAY CALM.



AND ABOVE ALL,
FORGIVE YOURSELF FOR
YOUR MISTAKES. THEY'RE
PART OF YOU.

YOU HAVE
TO DO THIS,
YOU HAVE TO
HOLD ON.



FOR YOURSELF AND
FOR ALL OF US.

DON'T
LEAVE
ME...!

DEFEAT.

YOU
FAILED?!

IT'S NOT OUR
FAULT. THERE'S A
SPELL ON THE CASE,
AND OUR POWERS
CAN'T...

IF YOU FREE
ELYON, SHE
COULD...

THAT'S
ENOUGH.

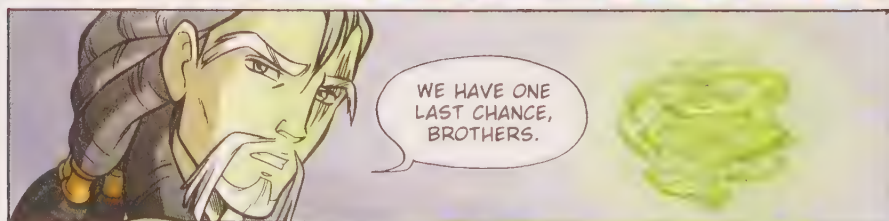
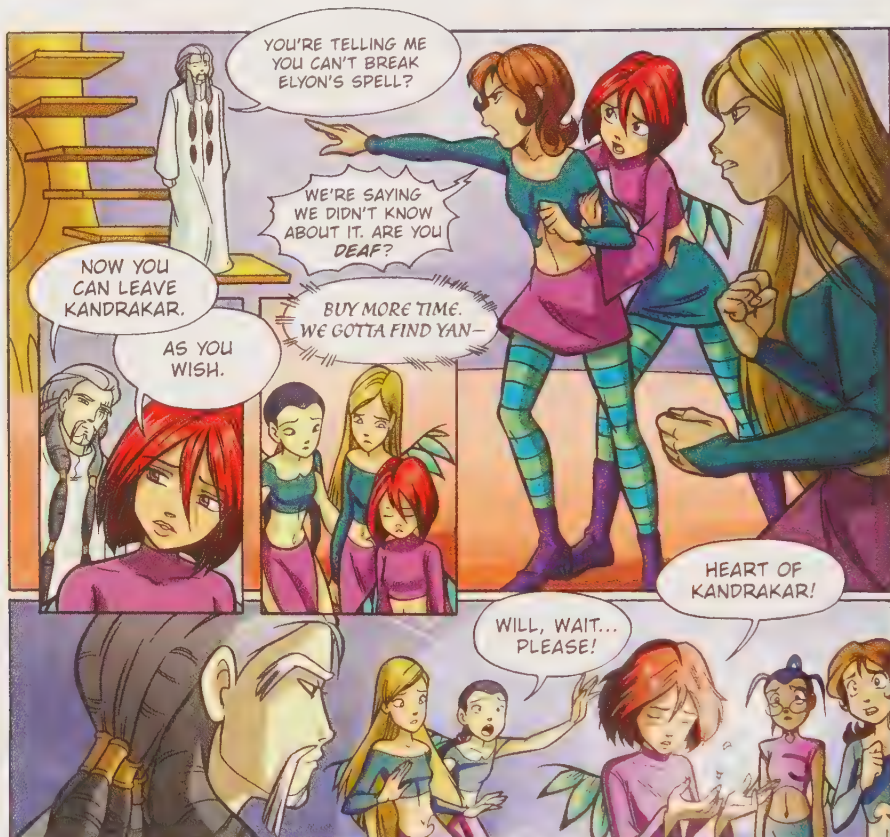
I ALWAYS
SUSPECTED YOU
WERE UNWORTHY OF
YOUR ROLES. NOW
I HAVE PROOF.

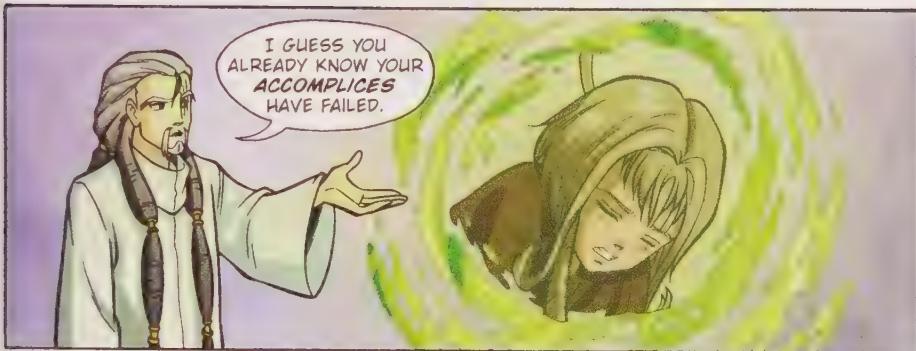
THE WHOLE
COUNCIL CAN
SEE THAT.

HOW
MANY TIMES DID
THE GUARDIANS
REBEL AGAINST
THE LAST ORACLE?

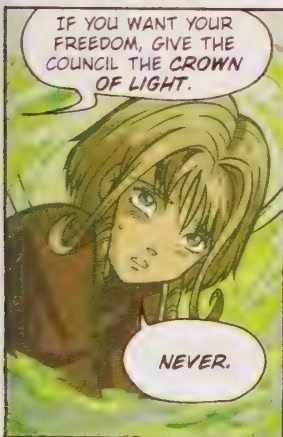
HOW MANY
TIMES DID THEY
GO TO ARKHANTA
AND COME BACK
ACCOMPLISHING
NOTHING?

OUT OF INCOMPETENCE
OR COMPLICITY, THEY
HAVE AGAIN FAILED
AND BETRAYED US.





I GUESS YOU
ALREADY KNOW YOUR
ACCOMPLICES
HAVE FAILED.



IF YOU WANT YOUR
FREEDOM, GIVE THE
COUNCIL THE **CROWN
OF LIGHT**.

NEVER.



AND I SWEAR
YOU'LL PAY!

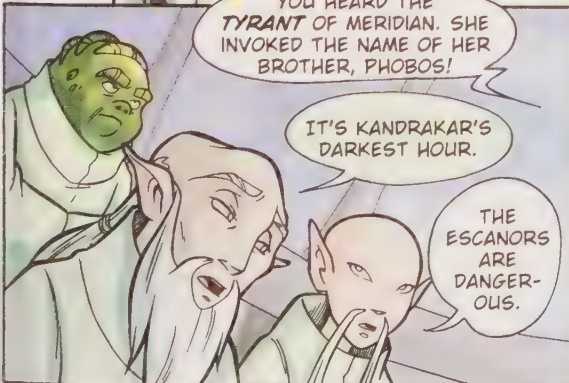


YOU'LL
PAY FOR
EVERYTHING!

PHOBOS!
I'LL...



THAT'S
TOO
MUCH.



YOU HEARD THE
TYRANT OF MERIDIAN. SHE
INVOKED THE NAME OF HER
BROTHER, **PHOBOS**!

IT'S KANDRAKAR'S
DARKEST HOUR.

THE
ESCANORS
ARE
DANGER-
OUS.



GRANTED.

I ASK TO
ADDRESS THE
COUNCIL.

THE CELESTIAL
SEARCH IS OVER.
KANDRAKAR CAN
CHOOSE NEW
GUARDIANS.

SO WE
CAN FACE THIS
DARK MOMENT.
I RECOMMEND
ENDARNO BE
GRANTED FULL
POWERS.

HE'LL BATHE IN THE
SPRING OF SILENCE
AND BE ABLE TO REPLAC
THESE UNWORTHY
GUARDIANS.

THAT SOUNDS
REASONABLE.

MAY THE
COUNCILOR
SPEAK!

I DON'T WANT
MY PRESENCE TO
INFLUENCE YOU.

"I'LL BE IN MY ROOMS
WAITING FOR YOUR DECISION."

IN DIFFERENT WATERS,
ANOTHER DESTINY IS
FULFILLED.



"MY NAME IS
HIMERISH."

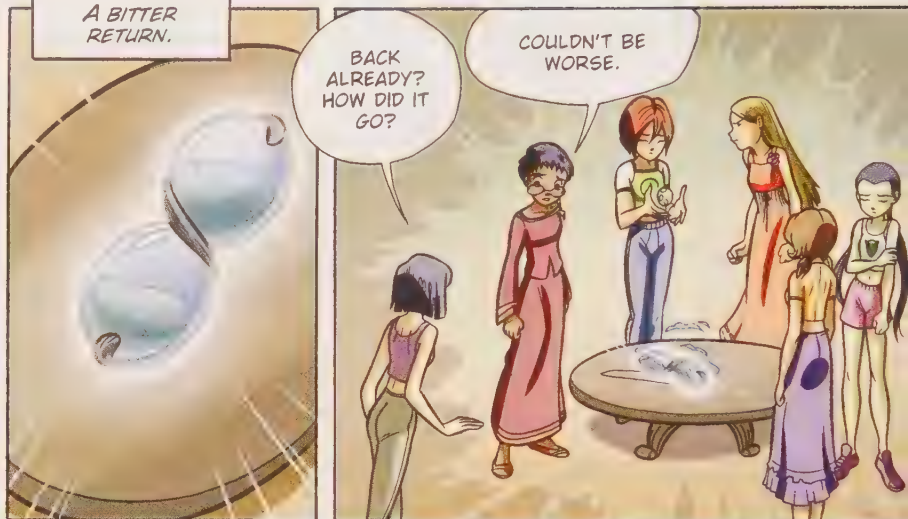


"AND I AM
NOTHING."

A BITTER
RETURN.

BACK
ALREADY?
HOW DID IT
GO?

COULDN'T BE
WORSE.

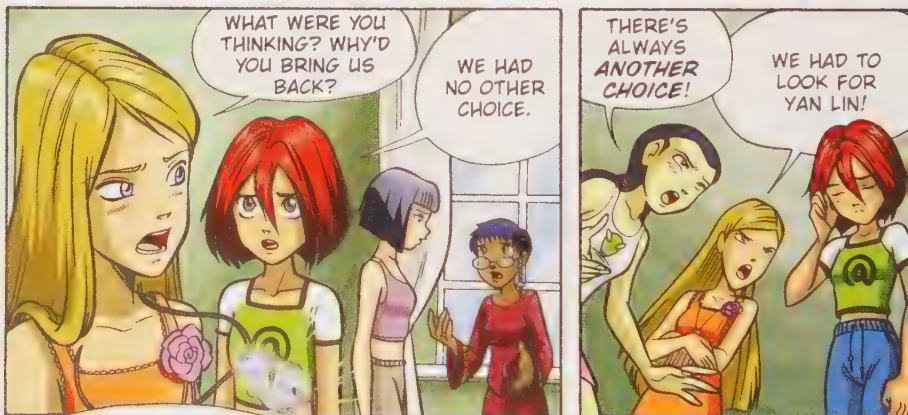


WHAT WERE YOU
THINKING? WHY'D
YOU BRING US
BACK?

WE HAD
NO OTHER
CHOICE.

THERE'S
ALWAYS
ANOTHER
CHOICE!

WE HAD TO
LOOK FOR
YAN LIN!



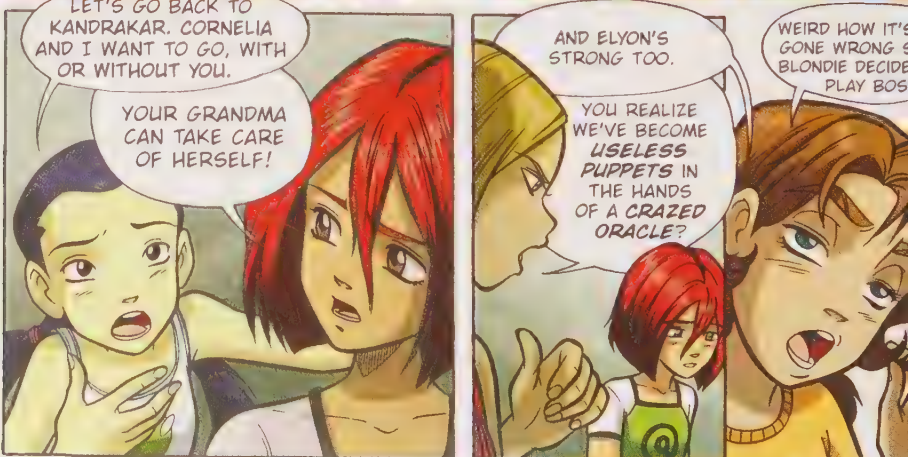
LET'S GO BACK TO
KANDRAKAR. CORNELIA
AND I WANT TO GO, WITH
OR WITHOUT YOU.

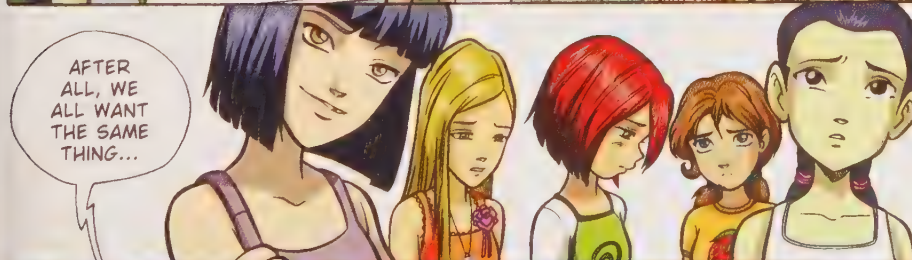
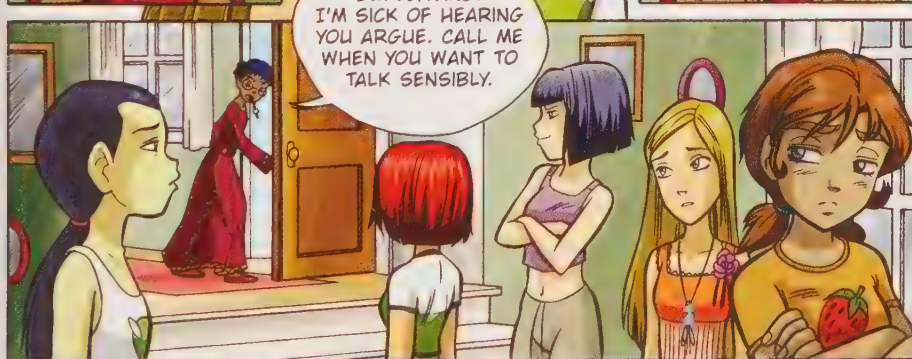
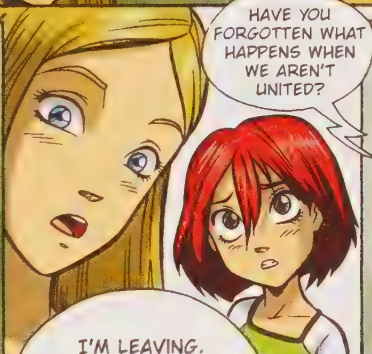
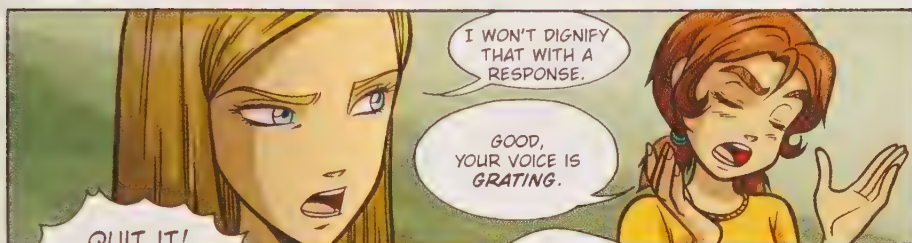
YOUR GRANDMA
CAN TAKE CARE
OF HERSELF!

AND ELYON'S
STRONG TOO.

YOU REALIZE
WE'VE BECOME
USELESS
PUPPETS IN
THE HANDS
OF A CRAZED
ORACLE?

WEIRD HOW IT'S
GONE WRONG S
BLONDIE DECIDE
PLAY BOS

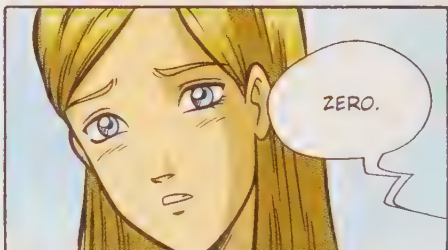
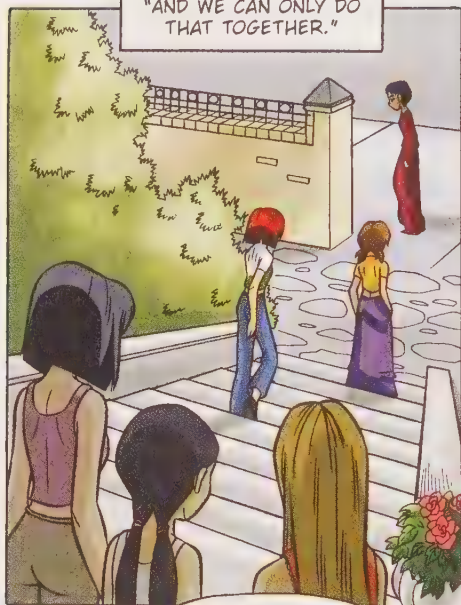




"AND WE CAN ONLY DO THAT TOGETHER."

YOU SPENT A LONG TIME IN KANDRAKAR, ORUBE. WHAT ARE OUR CHANCES IF WE...
CHALLENGE HIM?

IF WE ATTACK THE ORACLE TOGETHER...?

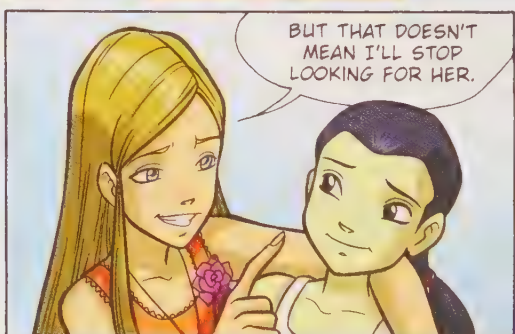
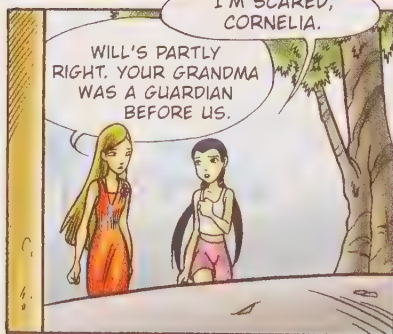


ZERO.

I'M SCARED, CORNELIA.

WILL'S PARTLY RIGHT. YOUR GRANDMA WAS A GUARDIAN BEFORE US.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'LL STOP LOOKING FOR HER.

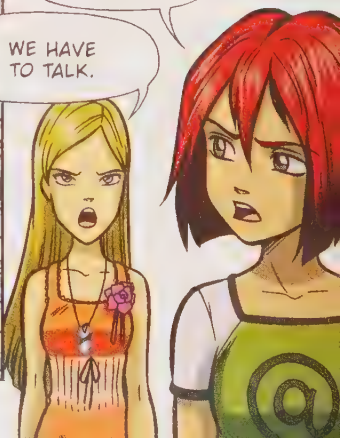


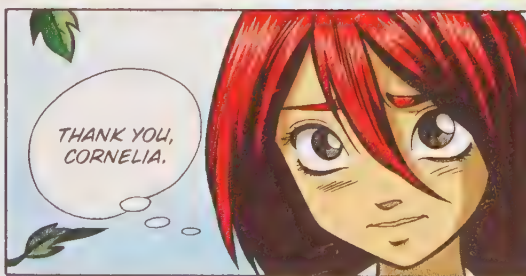
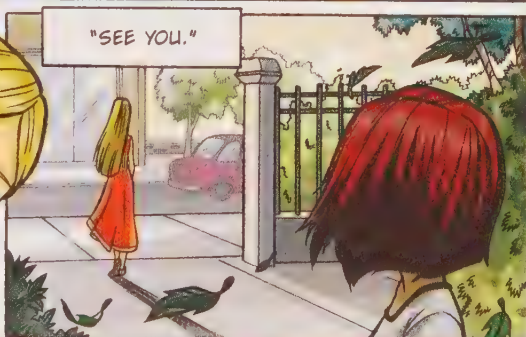
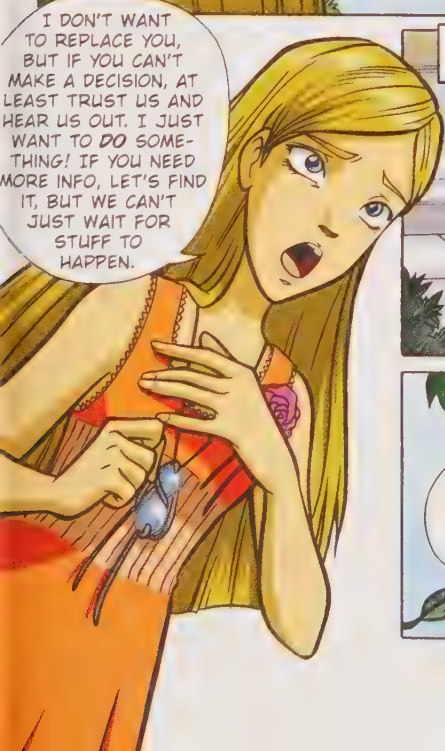
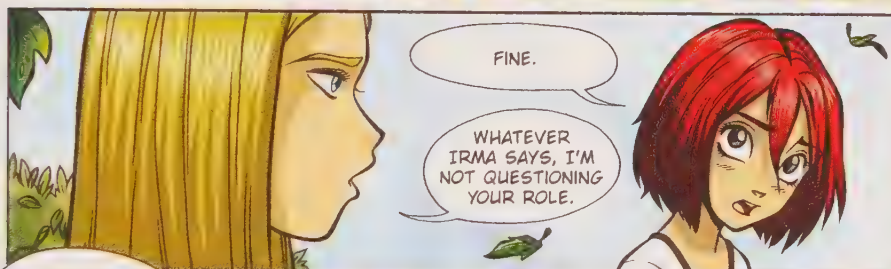
A FEW MINUTES LATER.
THE VANDOM HOUSE.

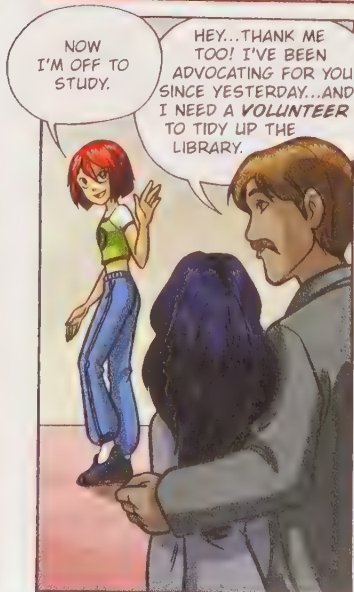
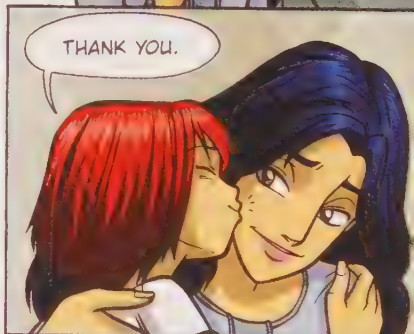
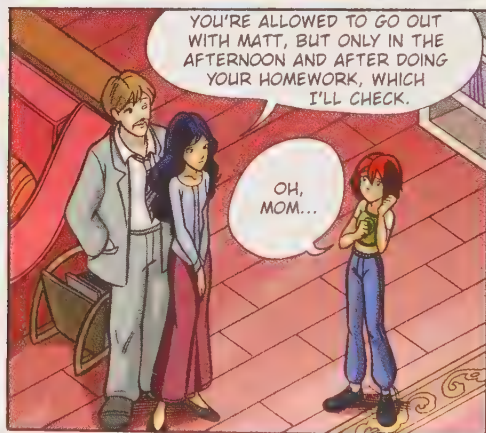
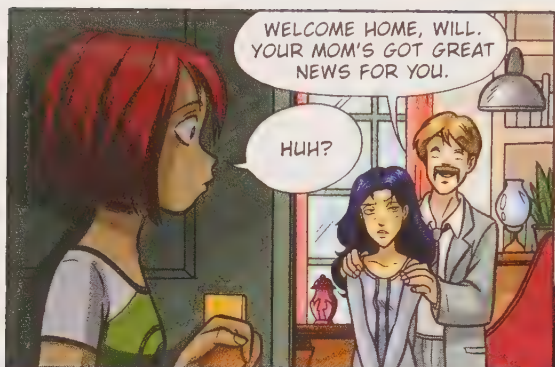
WILL!

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

WE HAVE TO TALK.







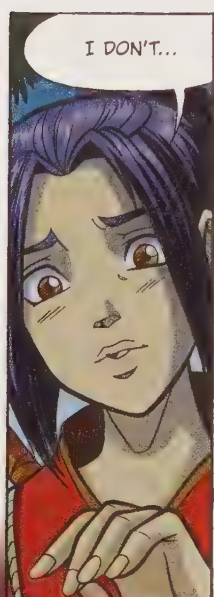


THE
STRANGER
IS LOST.

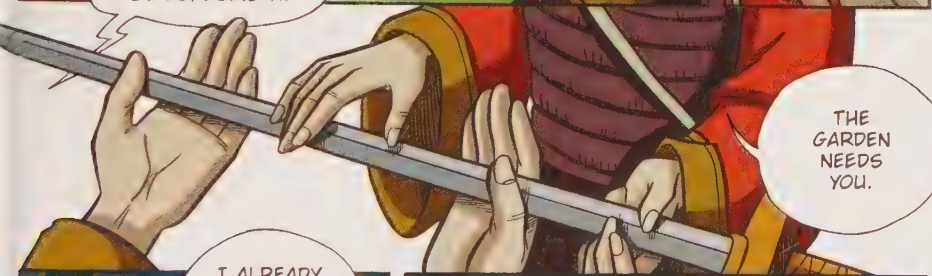
DON'T OFFEND ME
BY REFUSING IT.



YOU WERE RIGHT, IH-SHUI.
I GIVE YOU MY SWORD.



I DON'T...



THE
GARDEN
NEEDS
YOU.



I ALREADY
TOLD YOU
YOU'LL REPLACE
ME. I'M NOT
WORTHY
ANYMORE.



NOW GO.

THE CONGREGATION
HAS DECIDED.

THE DAY OF THE
TWENTIETH WIND OF THE
FOURTH ERA OF KANDRAKAR,
YOU'LL BATHE IN THE
SPRING OF SILENCE.

FROM THAT
MOMENT, YOU'LL BE OUR
ORACLE. YOU'LL HAVE
FULL POWERS...

...AND YOU'LL
BE ABLE TO
DESIGNATE NEW
GUARDIANS.

I, ENDARNO
OF BASILIADE,
ACCEPT YOUR
INVITATION TO
SERVE THIS
FORTRESS.

FINALLY!

FRIENDSHIP.

SOLIDARITY.

TEAMWORK.

WORDS
THAT ARE
BLOWING
AWAY
WITH THE
WIND.

NEW
FEELINGS
ECHO IN
THE NIGHT.

LONELINESS
AND DEFEAT.

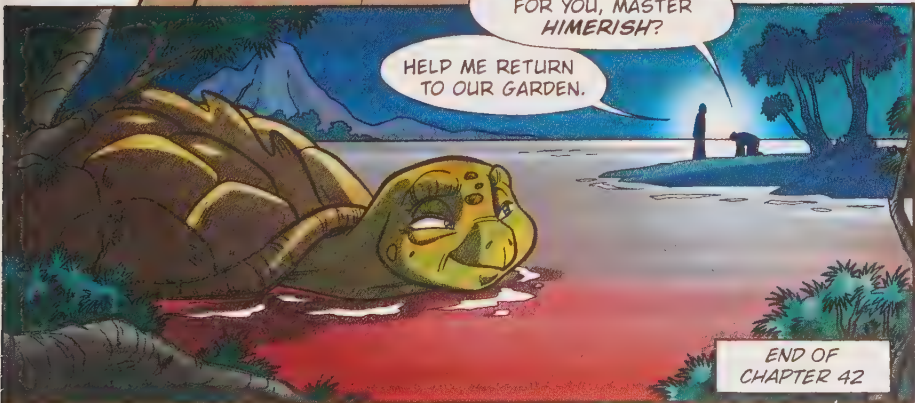
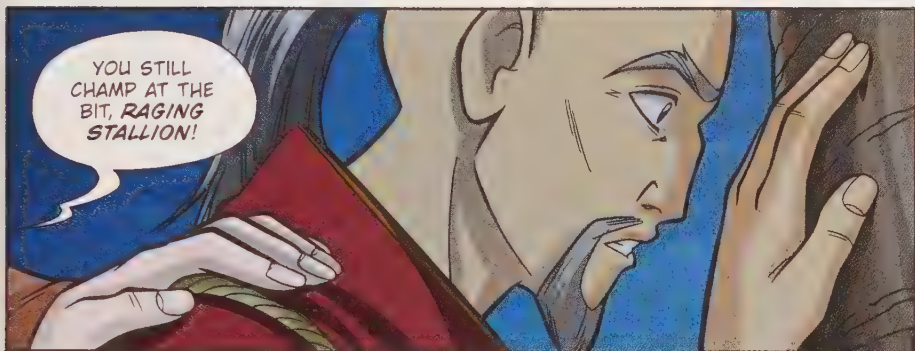


АННННН!

WHAT WAS
THE POINT
OF THIS?

WHAT WAS
THE POINT
OF BECOMING
THE PERFECT
WARRIOR?

I
CONDEMNED
A RIGHTEOUS
MAN.



Witch

Will

Irma

Taranea

Gernell

May Lin





The Magic of Light

“The courage to
stick together—
that’s the answer
you’re looking for.”

"LIGHT, WHERE
ARE YOU?

"ARE YOU
STILL SHINING
SOMEWHERE?

"IF SO, WHY
CAN'T I FEEL
YOUR WARMTH
ANYMORE? WHY
IS DARKNESS
SMOTHERING ME
LIKE A HEAVY
BLANKET?"

DON'T GIVE
UP, NOT NOW!
DEEP INSIDE,
YOU KNOW
DARKNESS
DOESN'T
EXIST.

DARKNESS IS
AN ILLUSION. A
LIE! REALITY IS
STILL IN FRONT
OF YOU. TRY
TOUCHING IT.

REACH
OUT. YOUR
HANDS
WILL BRUSH
MINE. THEN
OPEN YOUR
EYES, AND
MINE WILL
SHINE WITH
JOY.

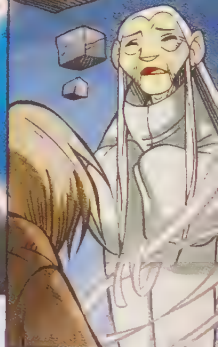
BECAUSE
YOU'RE
ELYON,
AND I NEED
YOU LIKE
A FLOWER
NEEDS THE
SUN.



WISE
YAN LIN!

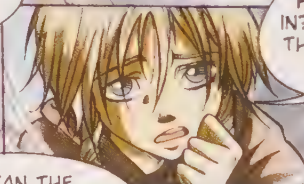
MY DEAR,
IF I WAS TRULY
WISE, I WOULDN'T
BE HERE NOW.

I'D NEVER
HAVE SET FOOT IN THIS
CRUEL CELL CONSUMING
YOUR LIFE
ENERGY...



...LOCKED IN THE
MOST IMPENETRABLE
OF PRISONS. THE
TOWER OF MISTS
IN KANDRAKAR.

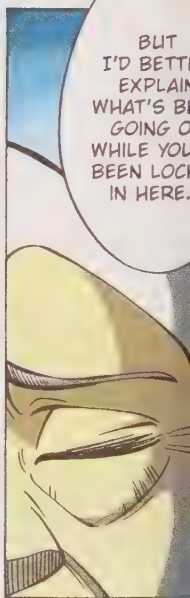
HOW DID YOU GET
IN? I THOUGHT ONLY
THE ORACLE COULD
ENTER THIS
PLACE.



SO CAN THE
CUSTODIAN OF
THE TOWER, WITH
A SPECIAL KEY.

THIS
BRACELET.

BUT
I'D BETTER
EXPLAIN
WHAT'S BEEN
GOING ON
WHILE YOU
'VE BEEN LOCKED
IN HERE.



"IN KANDRAKAR, IN
THE COUNCIL ROOM."

WISE MEN!
I, ENDARNO,
BOW TO YOU IN
GRATITUDE.

VAAL JUST TOLD
ME YOUR DECISION.
SOON I WILL BATHE
IN THE SPRING OF
SILENCE...

...AND THUS
ACQUIRE FULL POWERS,
FINALLY BECOMING
YOUR ORACLE.

THIS PLEASES ME BUT RAISES
ANOTHER ISSUE. THE TOWER OF
MISTS, OF WHICH I'VE ALWAYS
BEEN THE CUSTODIAN...

...WITH ITS DANGEROUS
GUESTS, INCLUDING ELYON
OF MERIDIAN, NEEDS
A NEW WARDEN.

THAT'S WHY
I RECOMMEND
THE ELECTION
OF MY TRUSTED
AND CAPABLE
VAAL.



I DON'T THINK
VAAL IS THE ONLY
CANDIDATE.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN,
TIBOR?

THAT THE
ELECTION OF THE
CUSTODIAN WILL
HAPPEN NOW. THE
CONGREGATION WILL
FOLLOW THE USUAL
PROCEDURE...



...AND THAT SOME HAVE
ALREADY PUT FORWARD
ANOTHER NAME. A NAME
LOVED AND RESPECTED
BY ALL.



I'M OBVIOUSLY
TALKING ABOUT THE
WISE YAN LIN!



THANK YOU,
THANK YOU. I'M
HONORED.

I APOLOGIZE FOR MY ABSENCE.
SOME ISSUES HAVE KEPT ME
AWAY FROM THESE ROOMS,
BUT DON'T WORRY...



...I PROMISE
I WON'T
DISAPPEAR
SO EASILY
ANYMORE!



...SO
HERE I AM.
AS YOU SEE,
THE ELECTION
WENT IN MY
FAVOR.

YOU DON'T THINK
I'M **DANGEROUS**
LIKE ENDARNO
SAYS?

I DON'T THINK
THE **REAL**
ENDARNO HAS
SAID ANYTHING
IN A WHILE.

SO YOU KNOW
EVERYTHING?

SADLY, I DO.
BUT WHAT SADDENS
ME MOST IS I **ALWAYS**
SUSPECTED IT.

IN
ENDARNO'S
BODY LURKS
THE EVIL
SOUL OF YOUR
BROTHER,
PHOBOS.

I HAD CONFIRMATION
AFTER MY ELECTION. I SAW
ANGER AND HATRED IN
ENDARNO'S EYES...

...AND STUDYING
THOSE FEELINGS WITH
MY HEART, IT WASN'T
HARD TO DETECT HIS
TRUE ESSENCE.

I SUSPECTED TOO...
BUT HOW COULD HE
FOOL THE WHOLE
CONGREGATION?

PHOBOS HAS
MANY TRICKS UP HIS
SLEEVE, AND NOW MORE
THAN EVER, HE CAN CLOUD
EVEN THE STRONGEST
MINDS.

I WAVERED MYSELF
FOR A MOMENT. MOST
OF THE WISE MEN ARE
AT HIS SERVICE.

I STILL
CAN'T
BELIEVE IT.
HOW COULD
HE DO ALL
THIS?

I THINK HE
TRANSFERRED HIS
RESIDUAL ENERGY INTO
ENDARNO'S **BODY**.

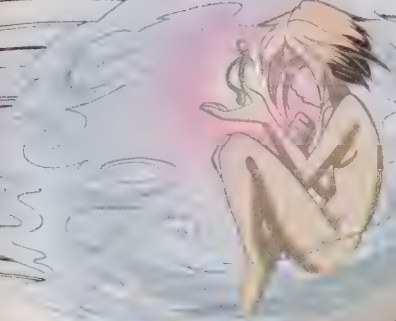
THE ONE
IMPRISONED IN THE CELL
IN THE **BODY** OF PHOBOS
IS THE OLD CUSTODIAN OF
THE TOWER.

WHY IS HE
DOING THIS?

THINK ABOUT IT. BEFORE
BEING DEFEATED, WASN'T
HE WAITING FOR YOUR
CORONATION TO ABSORB
YOUR ENERGY?*

WHAT IF HE'S
TRYING TO DO THE SAME
WITH ALL THE WORLDS
UNDER KANDRAKAR'S
PROTECTION, STARTING
WITH METAMOOR?

*SEE W.I.T.C.H.
CHAPTERS 11 AND 12



THE POWER HE POSSESSES NOW ISN'T ENOUGH FOR HIM. HE ASKS WILL FOR THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR BUT KNOWS SHE MUST GIVE IT FREELY.

WHILE FROM YOU HE DEMANDS NO LESS THAN THE CROWN OF LIGHT!

HE CAN'T BREAK THE SPELL THAT PROTECTS IT IN ITS CASE ON MERIDIAN.

TRUE, HE CAN'T. BUT YOU COULD GIVE HIM THE KEY TO OPEN IT.

NO!
NEVER!

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YES. SOONER OR LATER, YOU WILL. THIS CELL WAS CREATED TO SLOWLY DRAIN YOUR LIGHT...

...AND YOU KNOW THAT, DAY AFTER DAY, IT'S DIMMING YOUR RESISTANCE.

DON'T GIVE UP. I'M HERE NOW, AND THINGS WILL CHANGE. I'M ALREADY WORKING ON IT.

"...VISITING *BASILIADE* AND
TAKING THE SHAPE OF A *TURTLE*
IN THE WATERS OF THE
CRIMSON LAKE...

"...I HELPED
THE *OLD ORACLE*
FIND PART OF HIS
CONSCIOUSNESS."

BUT THAT
ORACLE WAS
DEPOSED. WHY
DID YOU TRY
TO CONTACT
HIM?

*LAST CHAPTER!

BECAUSE
I FEEL...MAYBE
I *HOPE*...HE CAN
HELP US. IN THE
PAST, HE'S BEEN
A GUIDE TO
ME.

I COULDN'T
TELL HIM MUCH.
PHOBOS IS WATCHING
ME. HE WANTED THE
ROLE OF CUSTODIAN OF
THE TOWER TO GO
TO VAAL...

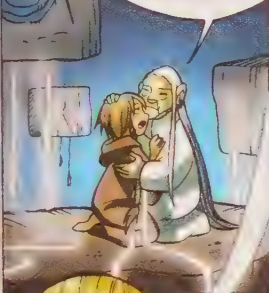
...BUT NOW
HE'S *AFRAID* OF
ME. THE FACT THAT I'M
TALKING TO YOU WORRIES
YOUR BROTHER GREATLY.

YOU MEAN HE KNOWS
YOU'RE HERE?

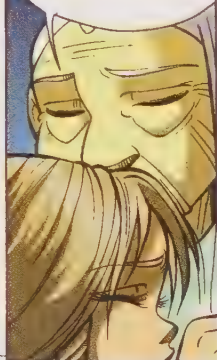
RELAX. HE'S
ALMOST THE
ORACLE, SO HE
KNOWS *ALMOST*
EVERYTHING. BUT
HE CAN'T READ
OUR MINDS
OR HEAR US
TALKING
YET.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN
YOU LEAVE THE TOWER
OF MISTS?

I DON'T KNOW.
I JUST KNOW WE
DON'T HAVE MUCH
TIME. LOOK ME IN
THE EYE AND
LISTEN, ELYON,
LIGHT OF
MERIDIAN...



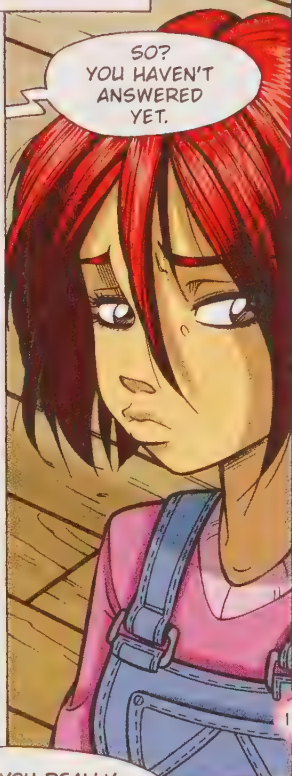
...BECAUSE I
HAVE TO ASK YOU
SOMETHING, AND
EVERYTHING
DEPENDS ON YOUR
ANSWER.



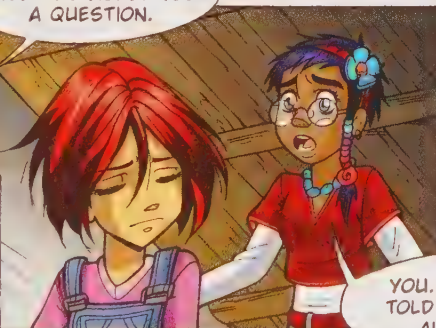
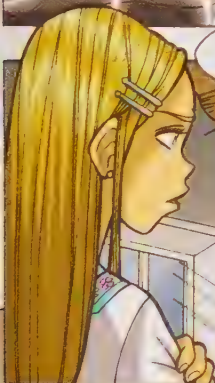
UNIVERSES AWAY,
ON EARTH...



SO?
YOU HAVEN'T
ANSWERED
YET.



WILL! WE ASKED YOU
A QUESTION.



YOU...YOU REALLY
TOLD **MATT** ABOUT
ALL OF **US**?

I DID. HE KNOWS
WE'RE KANDRAKAR'S
GUARDIANS.

AH!

GREAT
NEWS.

THIS IS
A MESS!
SUCH A
MESS!





WHY'S IT A PROBLEM? I DID WHAT I THOUGHT WAS *RIGHT*, AT THE *RIGHT* TIME, FOR THE *RIGHT* REASONS.

THE POINT IS YOU PUT US AT *RISK* BY DRAGGING YOUR BOYFRIEND IN.



YOU SHOULD'VE TALKED TO US FIRST.

I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT I AGREE WITH CORNELIA.

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE TO APOLOGIZE, TARANEE, BUT DON'T EXPECT ME TO CRY AND GROVEL.

MY CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR. I HOPED YOU'D REACT DIFFERENTLY WHEN I TOLD YOU THE TRUTH.



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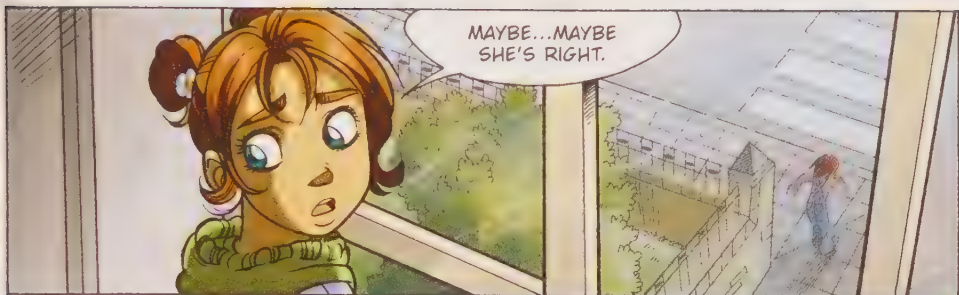


WHY AM I EVEN EXPLAINING MYSELF? ONE LOOK FROM MATT LIGHTENED THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR'S LOAD...

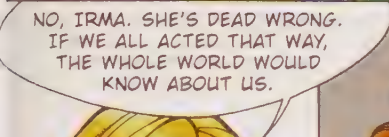


YOU GUYS HAVE ONLY EVER MADE IT *WORSE!*

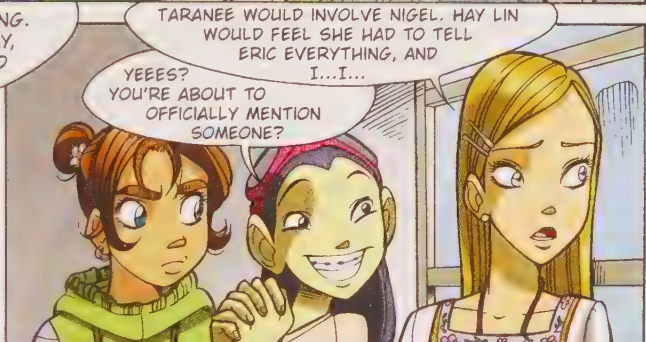




MAYBE...MAYBE
SHE'S RIGHT.



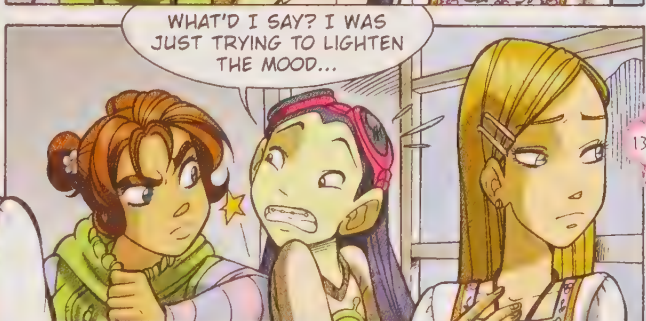
NO, IRMA. SHE'S DEAD WRONG.
IF WE ALL ACTED THAT WAY,
THE WHOLE WORLD WOULD
KNOW ABOUT US.



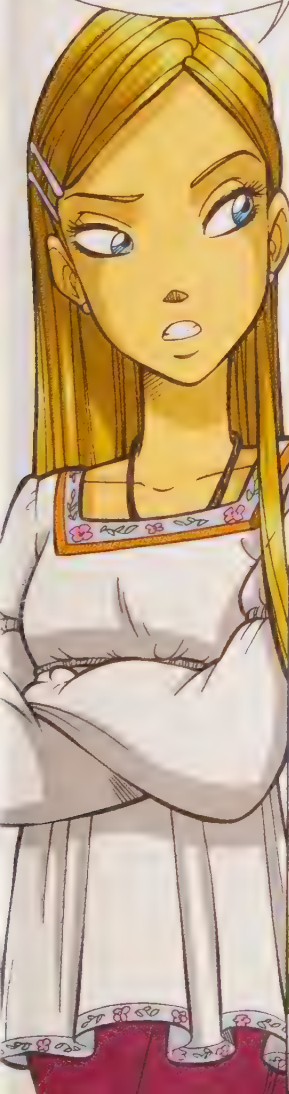
TARANEE WOULD INVOLVE NIGEL. HAY LIN
WOULD FEEL SHE HAD TO TELL
ERIC EVERYTHING, AND

YEEES?
YOU'RE ABOUT TO
OFFICIALLY MENTION
SOMEONE?

I...I...



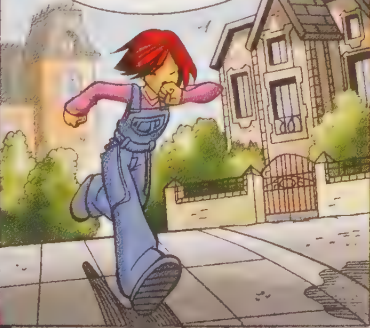
WHAT'D I SAY? I WAS
JUST TRYING TO LIGHTEN
THE MOOD...



THE FACT IS NONE OF US CAN AFFORD
TO DO WHATEVER WE PLEASE.

EVEN LESS WILL.
IF WE CAN'T **TRUST**
HER, HOW CAN WE HOPE
TO SOLVE MUCH BIGGER
PROBLEMS?

WELL, LISTEN TO OUR **DEPUTY
LEADER**. SINCE ENDARNO
GAVE YOU THE POWER
TO **STOP TIME**, YOU'RE
GETTING TOO BIG FOR
YOUR BOOTS.



THAT'S
ENOUGH.

WHAT? TRUTH
HURTS?

I DIDN'T ASK
FOR THIS
HOURGLASS!

IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, THE
CUSTODIAN OF THE HEART
HAD NO CHOICE EITHER.

?

ORUBE! SO YOU THINK WILL
WAS RIGHT TO TELL MATT
EVERYTHING TOO?

MY OPINION
DOESN'T
MATTER. THIS
WHOLE DISCUSSION
IS POINTLESS.

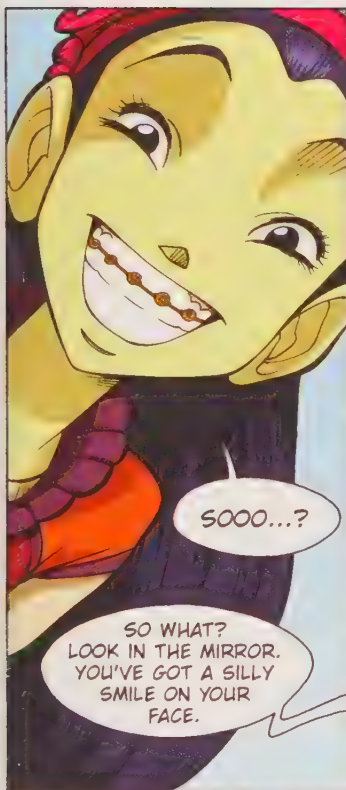
140

YOU GATHERED TO DISCUSS
HOW TO **FREE ELYON**,
AND AS USUAL, YOU END
UP TALKING ABOUT
OTHER STUFF.

WHATCHA
GONNA DO?
KICK US OUT
OF OUR
HOUSE?

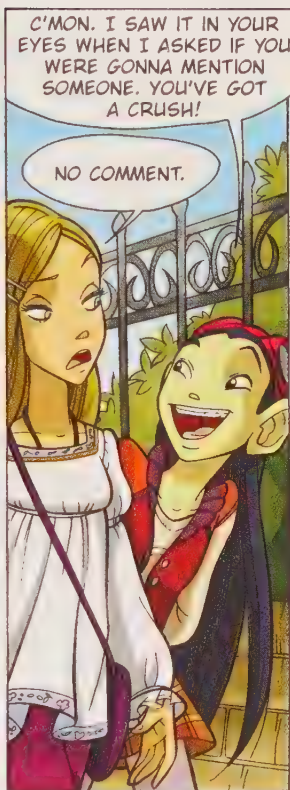
NO. I'M THE
ONE WHO'S LEAVING.
I NEED TO WALK
AND THINK...

"...AND I
SUGGEST YOU
DO THE SAME!"



SOOO...?

SO WHAT?
LOOK IN THE MIRROR.
YOU'VE GOT A SILLY
SMILE ON YOUR
FACE.



C'MON. I SAW IT IN YOUR
EYES WHEN I ASKED IF YOU
WERE GONNA MENTION
SOMEONE. YOU'VE GOT
A CRUSH!

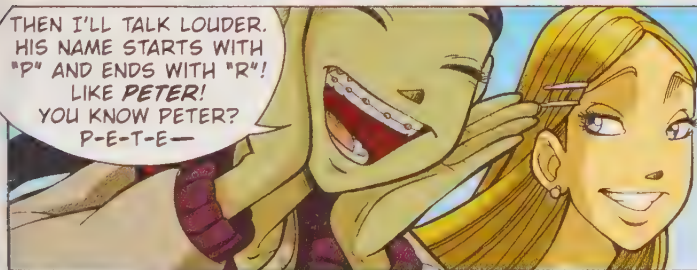
NO COMMENT.



HMM...LET'S
SEE. HE'S GOT
DREADLOCKS.
HE SURFS AND
LOOKS LIKE
TARANEE...

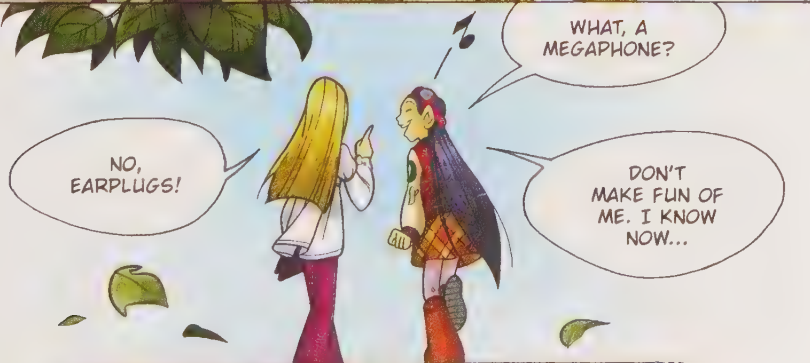
YOU'RE
WASTING
YOUR
BREATH,
HAY LIN.
I'M NOT
EVEN
LISTENING.

141



THEN I'LL TALK LOUDER.
HIS NAME STARTS WITH
"P" AND ENDS WITH "R"!
LIKE **PETER**!
YOU KNOW PETER?
P-E-T-E-

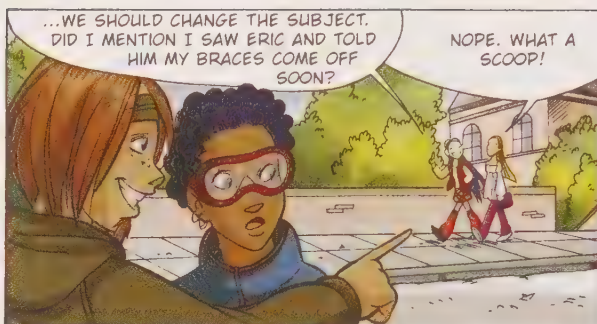
WAIT, I'VE
GOT SOMETHING
IN MY PURSE
THAT MIGHT
HELP.



WHAT, A
MEGAPHONE?

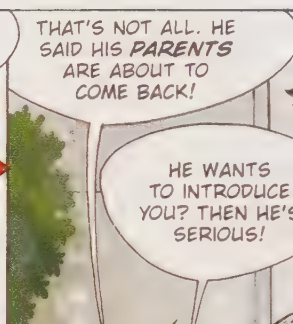
NO,
EARPLUGS!

DON'T
MAKE FUN OF
ME. I KNOW
NOW...



...WE SHOULD CHANGE THE SUBJECT. DID I MENTION I SAW ERIC AND TOLD HIM MY BRACES COME OFF SOON?

NOPE. WHAT A SCOOP!



THAT'S NOT ALL. HE SAID HIS PARENTS ARE ABOUT TO COME BACK!



AWESOME! I DIDN'T SEE IT THAT WAY!

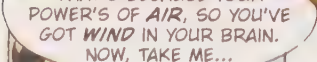
BECAUSE YOU DON'T THINK LIKE A **BOY**! GIVE THEM A HAND, THEY TAKE THE WHOLE ARM.



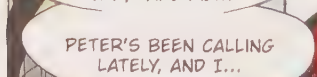
HE WANTS TO INTRODUCE YOU? THEN HE'S SERIOUS!



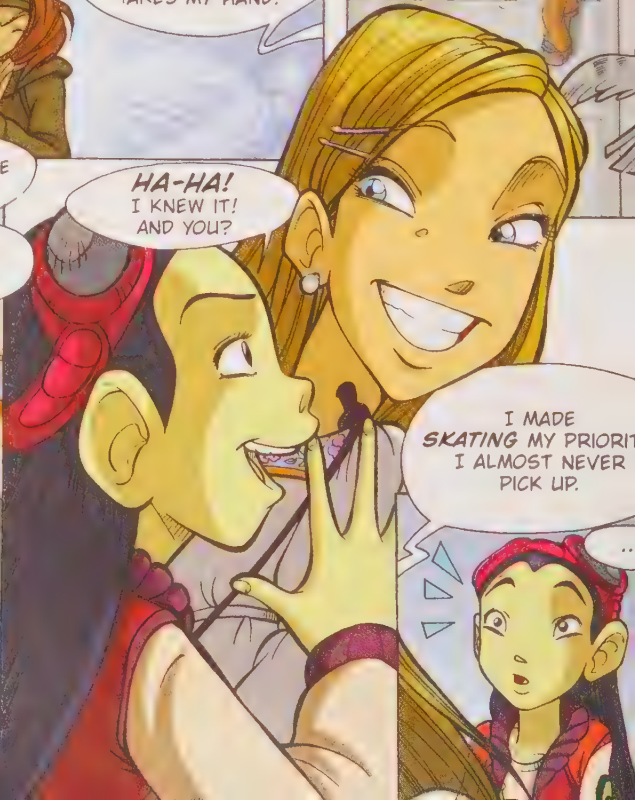
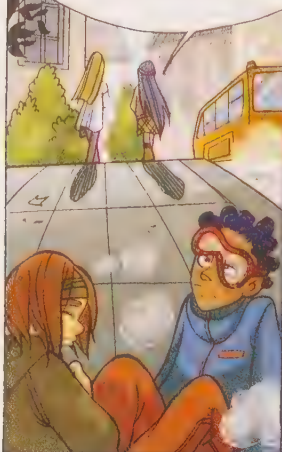
BUT I LIKE WHEN ERIC TAKES MY HAND!



THAT'S BECAUSE YOUR POWER'S OF AIR, SO YOU'VE GOT WIND IN YOUR BRAIN. NOW, TAKE ME...

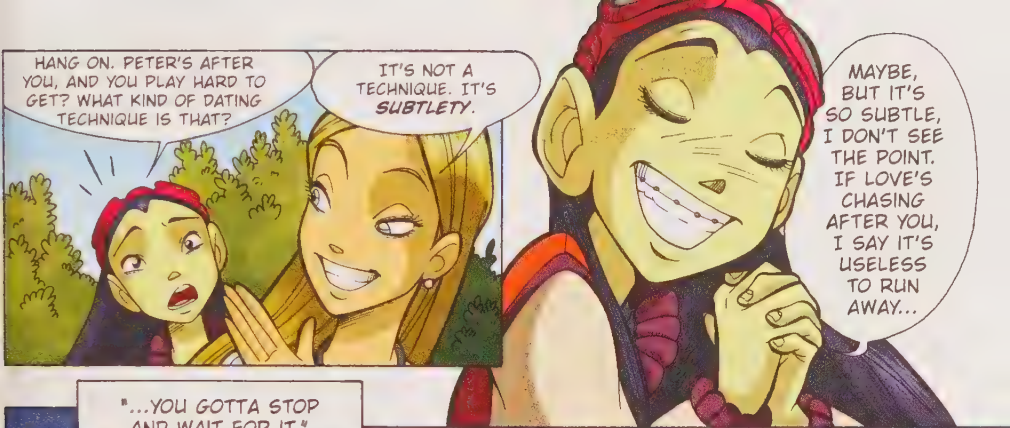


PETER'S BEEN CALLING LATELY, AND I...



HA-HA! I KNEW IT! AND YOU?

I MADE SKATING MY PRIORITY I ALMOST NEVER PICK UP.



HANG ON. PETER'S AFTER YOU, AND YOU PLAY HARD TO GET? WHAT KIND OF DATING TECHNIQUE IS THAT?

IT'S NOT A TECHNIQUE. IT'S *SUBTLETY*.

MAYBE, BUT IT'S SO SUBTLE, I DON'T SEE THE POINT. IF LOVE'S CHASING AFTER YOU, I SAY IT'S USELESS TO RUN AWAY...



"...YOU GOTTA STOP AND WAIT FOR IT."

STOP! I'M GONNA GET YOU!

HA-HA!
JUST TRY!

THERE YOU ARE!

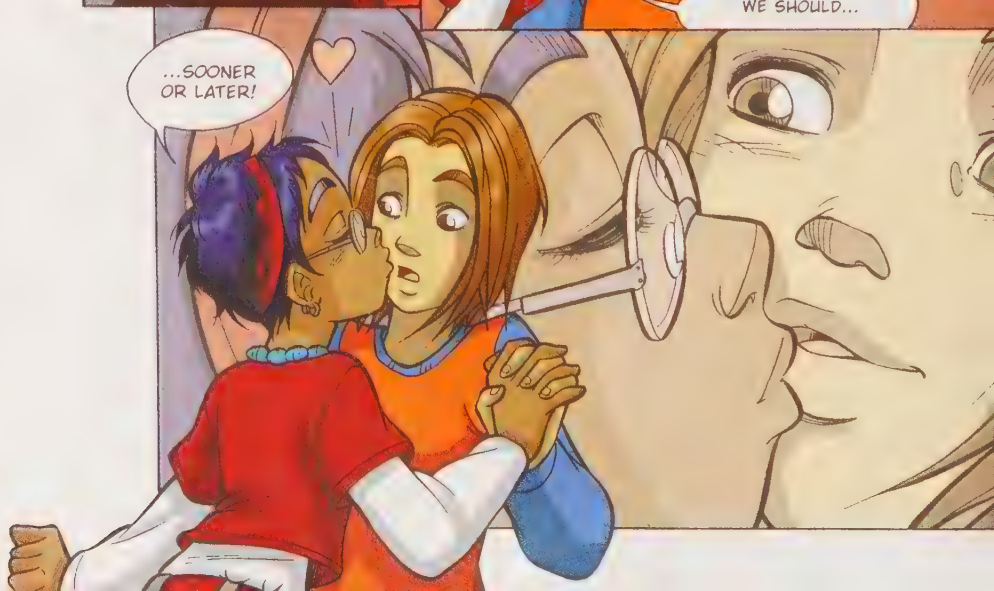
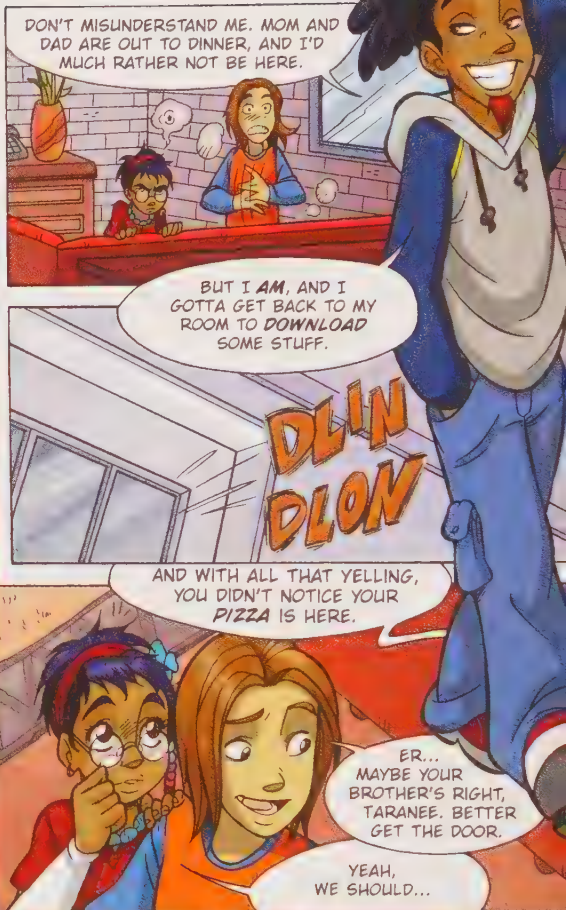
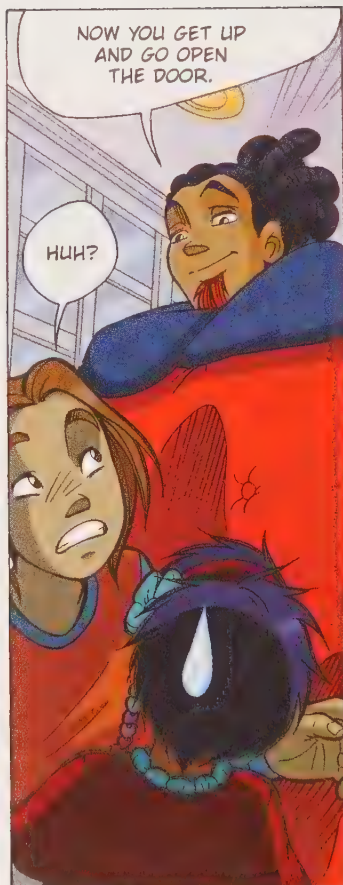
HA-HA!

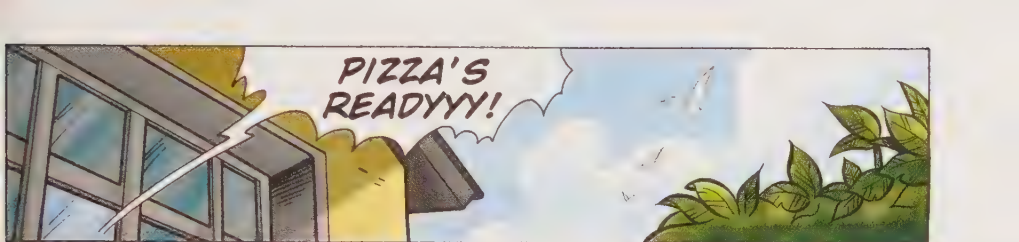


LEMME GO!
SERIOUSLY!

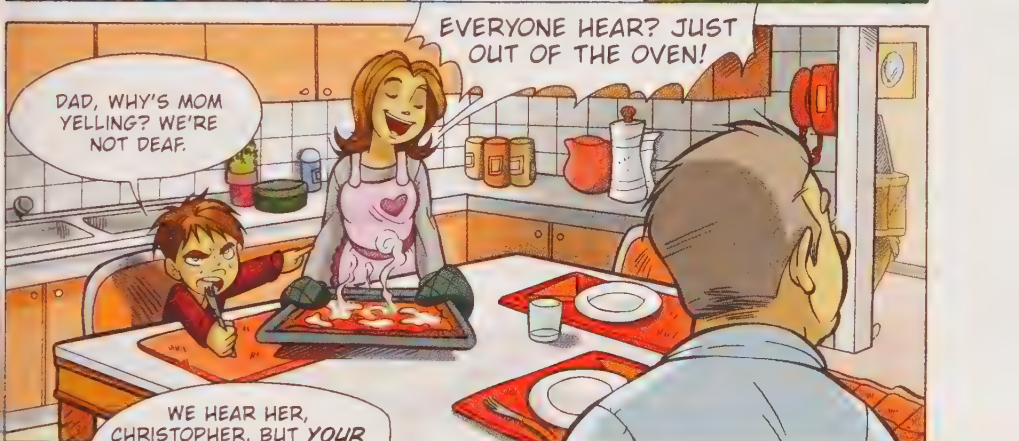
FORGET IT.
YOU STARTED
TICKLING ME,
AND NOW...

...N-NOW...





PIZZA'S
READYYY!



EVERYONE HEAR? JUST
OUT OF THE OVEN!

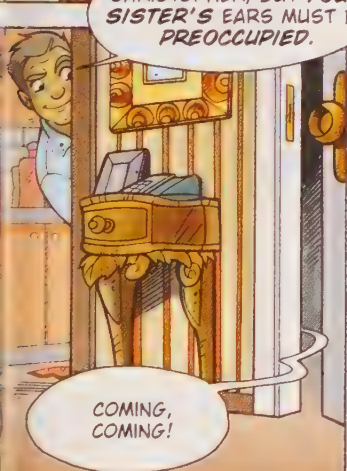
DAD, WHY'S MOM
YELLING? WE'RE
NOT DEAF.

WE HEAR HER,
CHRISTOPHER, BUT *YOUR
SISTER'S EARS MUST BE
PREOCCUPIED.*

OOF, I GOTTA GO
ALREADY! IT'S ONLY
BEEN **FIFTY-SIX**
MINUTES!



YOU KNOW WHAT?
I REALLY LIKE
CHATTING WITH
YOU, IRMA!

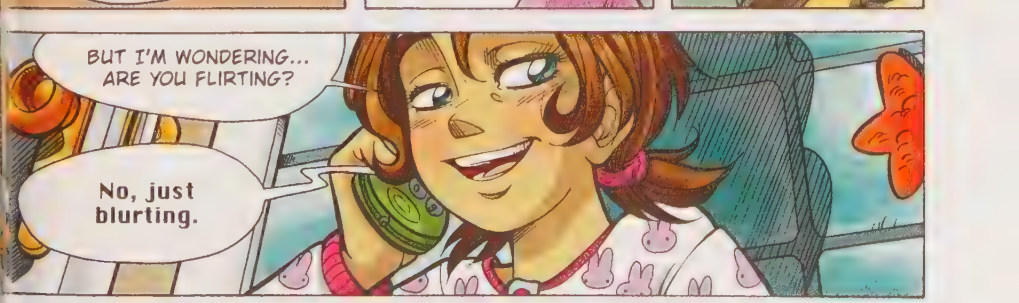


COMING,
COMING!



Okay,
let's make
it a nice,
round
SIXTY!

Me too,
JOEL.



BUT I'M WONDERING...
ARE YOU FLIRTING?

No, just
blurting.

So listen,
when can we
meet up?

HEY,
SOMEONE'S
IN A RUSH!
ARE YOU A
MUSICIAN
OR AN
ATHLETE?

Matt said
Wednesday you'll
come see our **BAND**
rehearse.

ONLY BECAUSE
WILL INVITED ME,
AND I WANNA TAKE
SOME PICTURES!

You like
photography or
just want a signed
poster of
COBALT BLUE?

I'M STUBBORN...
BUT YOU SHOULD KNOW
THAT, SINCE I MANAGED
TO GET YOUR PHONE
NUMBER.

NEITHER.
I'M PART OF AN
ORGANIZATION AGAINST
THE MISTREATMENT OF
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Ha-ha-ha! That's a
good one! Really!

PFFFT!

DAD, HOW DO YOU KNOW
WHEN TWO PEOPLE ARE
IN LOVE?

WHEN THEIR
PIZZA GETS
COLD.

IN THE MEANTIME,
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF HEATHERFIELD...

LOVE, SEEMS LIKE
ON EARTH EVERYTHING
REVOLVES AROUND
THAT FEELING.

EVEN THE
GUARDIANS ALWAYS
PUT IT FIRST.

BEFORE HONOR.
BEFORE FIGHTING.
SOMETIMES
EVEN BEFORE
FRIENDSHIP.

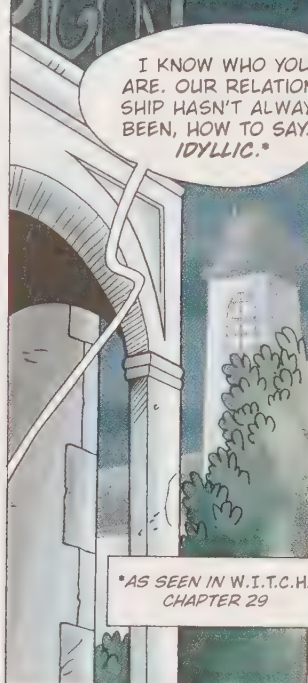
NO, I REALLY
DON'T GET EARTHLINGS.
THEN WHY DON'T I LEAVE?
WHAT AM I LOOKING FOR
ON THIS PLANET?

HELLO!

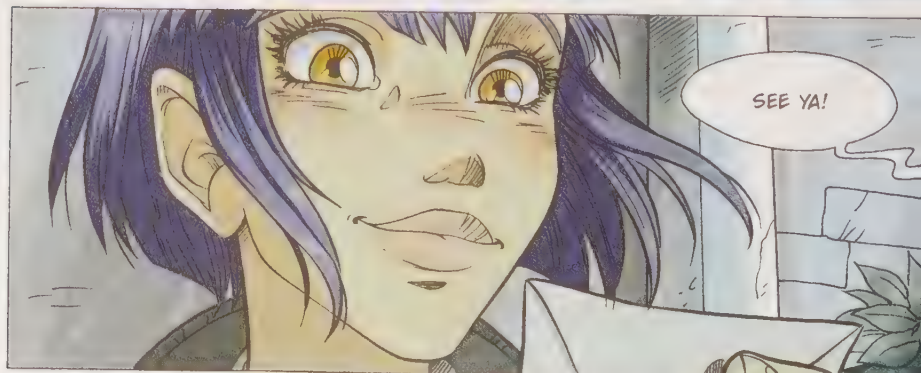
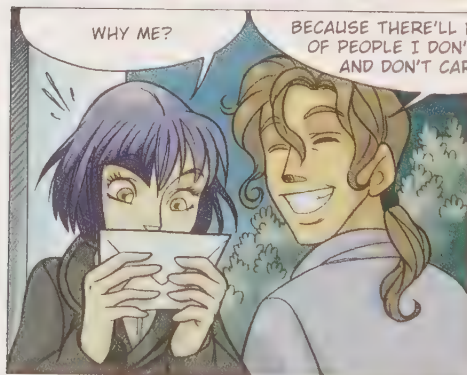
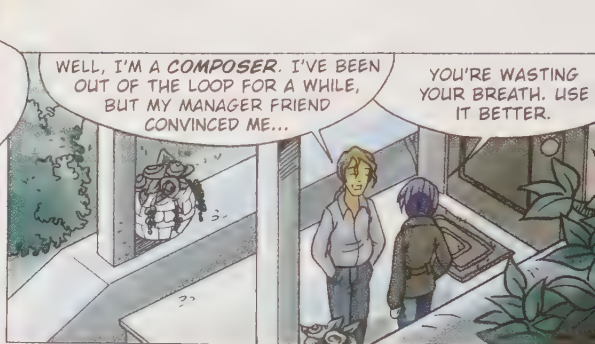
HMM...?

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T
NOTICED, I ALREADY
OWN A DOORMAT.

ER...
I... I'M RAY
FIELDESTAIN,
YOUR
NEIGHBOR.



*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H.
CHAPTER 29



"LIGHT, WHERE
ARE YOU?"

"I SEE YOU HIDING
IN THE FOLDS OF
MY BLANKET..."

"...OR IN THE FLEETING
HEADLIGHTS THAT SHINE
THROUGH MY WINDOW,
GLIDING ACROSS
THE CEILING.

"YOU LEAVE ME ALONE
AND TURN MY THOUGHTS
BLACK, SO MUCH SO IT
SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE TO
TELL THEM APART FROM
THE DARKNESS.

"I'VE DECIDED. I'LL
CLOSE MY EYES SO
THE DARKNESS WILL BE
COMPLETE. AND, MAYBE,
I'LL START DREAMING
RIGHT AWAY.

"YES. I'LL DREAM OF MATT
AND TELL HIM EVERYTHING.
EVEN WHAT I **CAN'T**
BECAUSE THE **WHOLE**
TRUTH MIGHT HURT."



"I'LL DREAM OF THE GIRLS,
AND THEY'LL UNDERSTAND
ME WITHOUT CRITICIZING.
WITHOUT JUDGING ME
FOR ONCE.

"THEN I'LL DREAM
OF THE HEART OF
KANDRAKAR. I'LL
TALK TO IT AND
ENTRUST IT TO THE
DARK SO IT CAN
TAKE IT AWAY..."

NO,
WILL, THAT
WOULDN'T BE
A WISE MOVE.
AFTER ALL, AS
I'VE ALREADY
TOLD ELYON,
DARKNESS
ISN'T
REAL.

?

AM I REALLY
DREAMING?

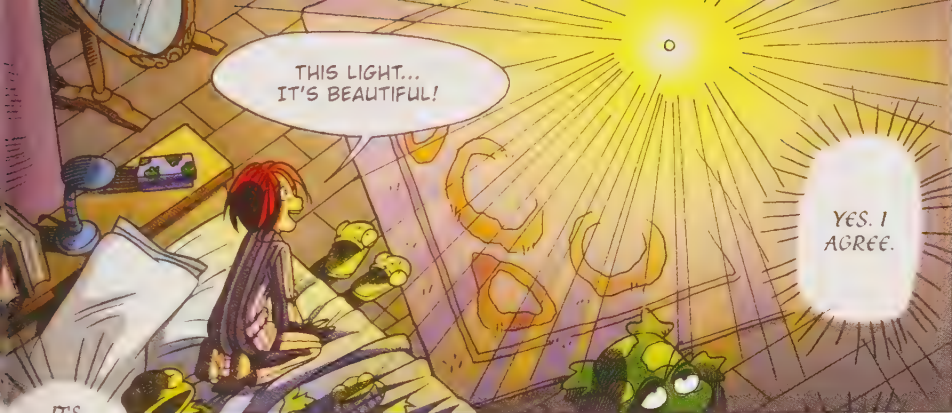
SO ARE
YOU REAL OR
A VISION?

SOMETHING
IN BETWEEN. I
CAME TO BRING YOU
SOMETHING, BUT TO
SEE IT, YOU HAVE TO
OPEN YOUR EYES.

MORE
OR LESS.
YOU SHOULD
KNOW BY NOW
THAT DREAMS
ARE A GREAT
MEANS OF
CONTACT.

COME ON.
WILL. DO AS
I SAID AND
OPEN YOUR
EYES!

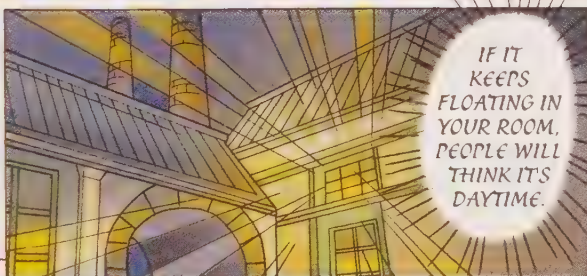
WH-
WHAT...?



THIS LIGHT...
IT'S BEAUTIFUL!

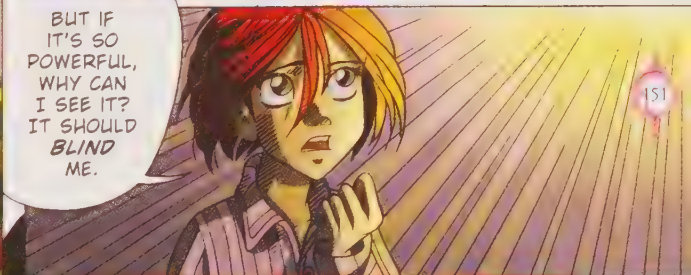
YES. I
AGREE.

IT'S
ALSO VERY
POWERFUL.
SO STRONG,
IT BLURS THE
CONTOURS OF
THINGS,
NOT UNLIKE
DARKNESS.



IF IT
KEEPS
FLOATING IN
YOUR ROOM,
PEOPLE WILL
THINK IT'S
DAYTIME.

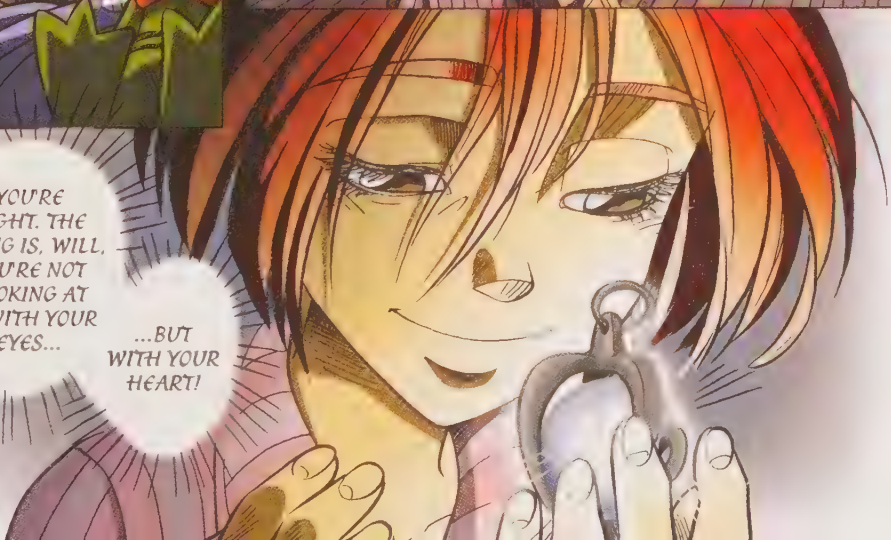
BUT IF
IT'S SO
POWERFUL,
WHY CAN
I SEE IT?
IT SHOULD
BLIND
ME.



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YOU'RE
RIGHT. THE
THING IS, WILL,
YOU'RE NOT
LOOKING AT
IT WITH YOUR
EYES...

...BUT
WITH YOUR
HEART!



I STILL DON'T
UNDERSTAND, WISE
YAN LIN.

NOW CLOSE
YOUR EYES
SO YOU CAN
SEE ME.

WELCOME BACK. AS
YOU MUST'VE GUESSED,
WHAT YOU SEE IN YOUR
DREAMS IS JUST
MY IMAGE.

I'M ACTUALLY IN
THE TOWER OF MISTS
WITH ELYON, AND I REALLY
DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME
TO EXPLAIN.

I'M
LISTENING.

152

MEANWHILE, IN
ANOTHER ROOM...

MMPH...WHAT'S
HAPPENING?
IS IT DAY
ALREADY?

BUT I FEEL
LIKE I'VE ONLY
SLEPT HALF AN
HOUR!

YAAAAZZ!

WELL,
LET'S GET
UP, SUSAN.
YOU'VE
GOT A TON
OF STUFF
TO DO THIS
MORNING.

GRAT
GRAT

SHORTLY AFTERWARD,
IN WILL'S DREAM...

UNBELIEVABLE!

SO YOU THINK
PHOBOS IS HIDING
INSIDE ENDARNO'S
BODY?

UNFORTUNATELY,
ELYON AND
I HAVE NO
DOUBT.

ELYON! NOW THAT YOU'RE
THE TOWER'S CUSTODIAN,
WHY DON'T YOU
FREE HER?

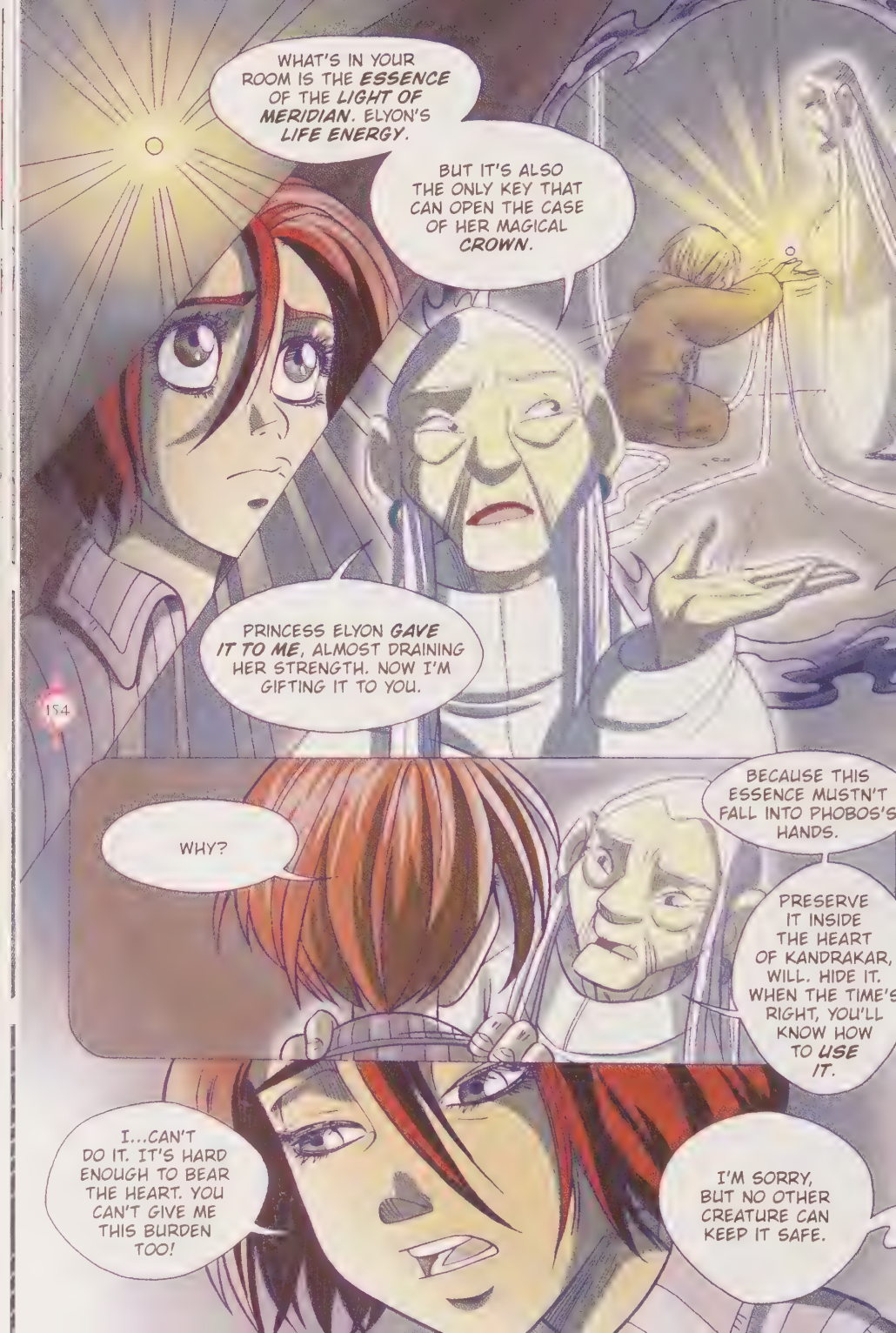
I CAN
VISIT AND
CHECK ON
THE PRISONERS,
BUT I DON'T HAVE
THE POWER TO
GRANT THEM
FREEDOM.

ONLY
THE ORACLE
CAN, AND HE'S
WAITING FOR ME
OUTSIDE THE
PRISON FOR A
SHOWDOWN.

THAT MEANS YOU'RE
IN GRAVE DANGER!

WE
ALL ARE,
WILL. ALL
OF US!

THE FACT
IS, KANDRAKAR
IS NO LONGER
SAFE. THAT'S
WHY I CAME
TO YOU.



WHAT'S IN YOUR ROOM IS THE *ESSENCE* OF THE *LIGHT OF MERIDIAN*. ELYON'S *LIFE ENERGY*.

BUT IT'S ALSO THE ONLY KEY THAT CAN OPEN THE CASE OF HER MAGICAL CROWN.

PRINCESS ELYON *GAVE IT TO ME*, ALMOST DRAINING HER STRENGTH. NOW I'M GIFTING IT TO YOU.

WHY?

BECAUSE THIS *ESSENCE* MUSTN'T FALL INTO PHOBOS'S HANDS.

PRESERVE IT INSIDE THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR, WILL. HIDE IT. WHEN THE TIME'S RIGHT, YOU'LL KNOW HOW TO *USE IT*.

I...CAN'T DO IT. IT'S HARD ENOUGH TO BEAR THE HEART. YOU CAN'T GIVE ME THIS BURDEN TOO!

I'M SORRY, BUT NO OTHER CREATURE CAN KEEP IT SAFE.



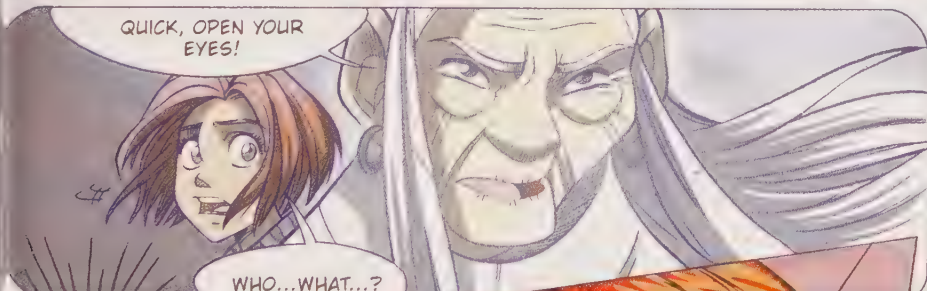
YOU HAVE TO BE STRONG
BECAUSE **EVIL** HAS NEVER
BEEN SO CLOSE. AND IF
PHOBOS GETS HIS HANDS
ON THAT ESSENCE
OF **LIGHT**...



...THEN
DARKNESS WON'T
BE AN ILLUSION
ANYMORE. IT WILL
BECOME **REAL**.



YAN LIN...



QUICK, OPEN YOUR
EYES!

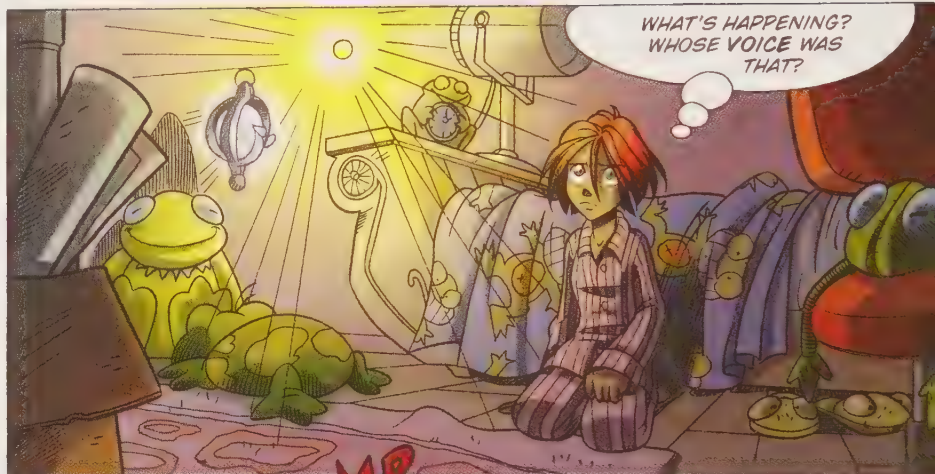
WHO...WHAT...?

YAAAN
LIIN...



DO AS I
SAY! OPEN
YOUR EYES,
WILL! RIGHT
NOW!

"AND KEEP THEM
OPEN AS LONG
AS YOU CAN!"



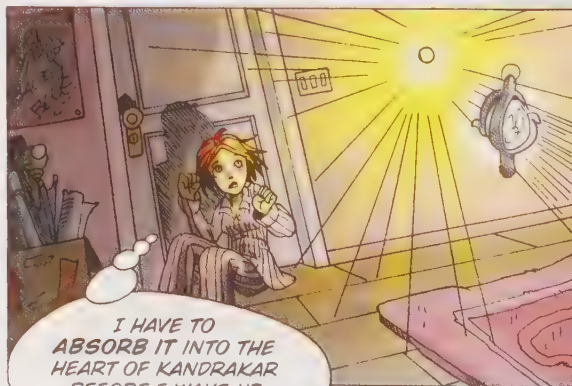
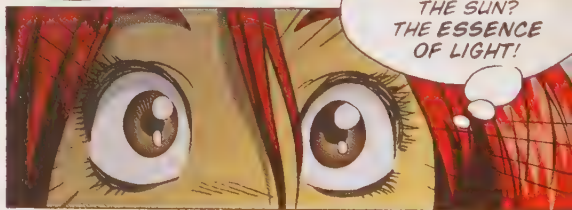
**TUMP
TUMP
TUMP**

Y-YES? WH-WHO IS IT?

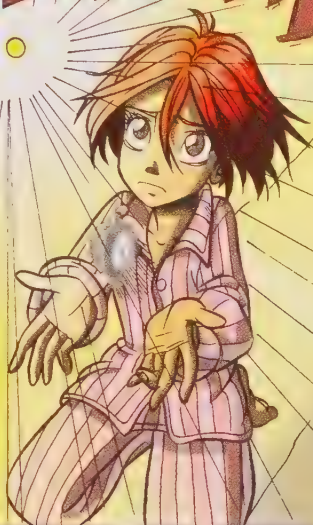
IT'S YOUR MOTHER, WILL. WHO ELSE?

156
TIME TO GET UP.
→YAWN← THE SUN'S SHINING!

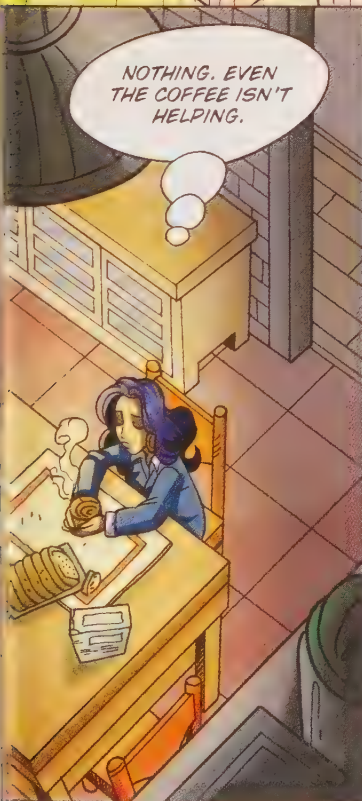
THE SUN?
THE ESSENCE OF LIGHT!



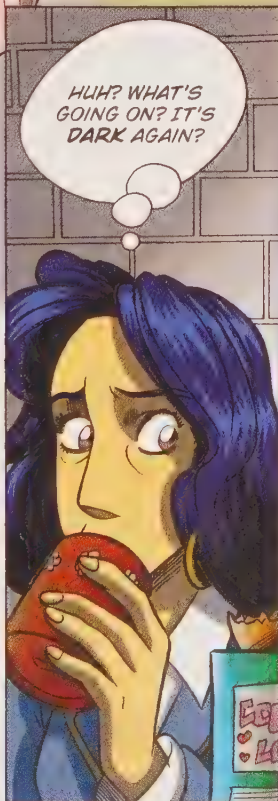
SHA-WAAAAM



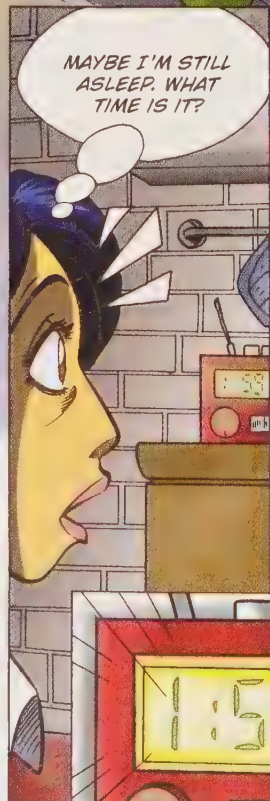
NOTHING. EVEN
THE COFFEE ISN'T
HELPING.



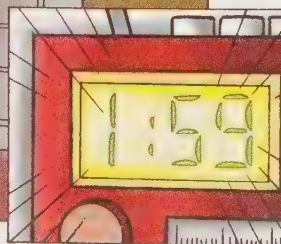
HUH? WHAT'S
GOING ON? IT'S
DARK AGAIN?

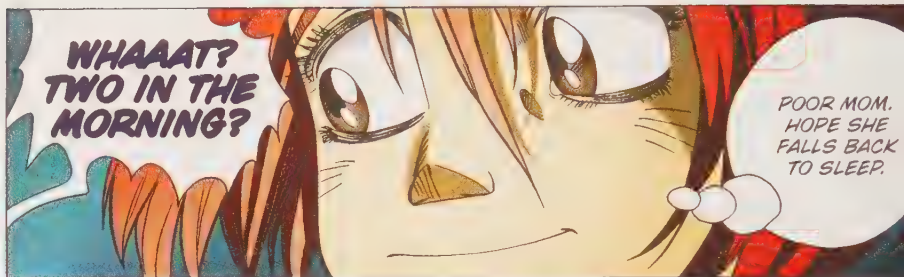


MAYBE I'M STILL
ASLEEP. WHAT
TIME IS IT?



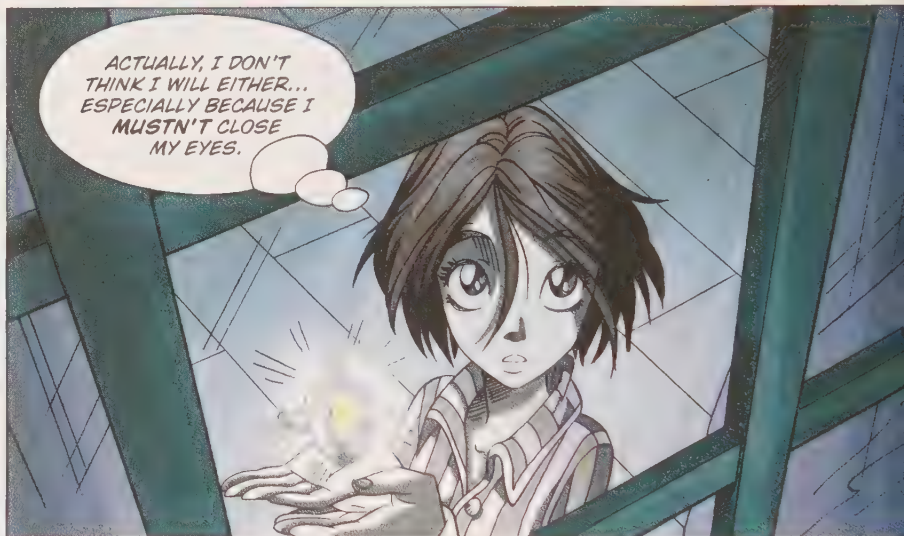
157





**WHAAAT?
TWO IN THE
MORNING?**

POOR MOM.
HOPE SHE
FALLS BACK
TO SLEEP.



ACTUALLY, I DON'T
THINK I WILL EITHER...
ESPECIALLY BECAUSE I
MUSTN'T CLOSE
MY EYES.

158



HAY LIN'S GRANDMA SEEMED
REALLY SCARED WHEN SHE
YELLED AT ME TO OPEN
THEM. AND THAT
VOICE...

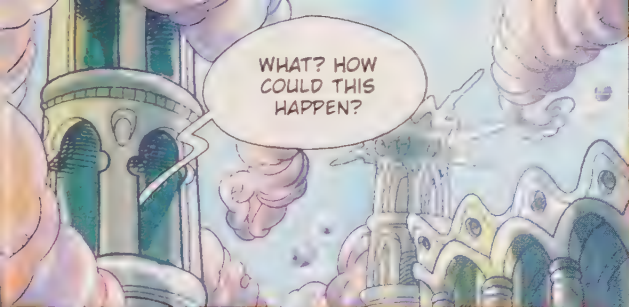


YES.
THINKING
ABOUT IT, I'M
SURE I'VE
HEARD IT
BEFORE.



IT WAS
PHOBOS'
VOICE!

AND LINDOLSTER
WILL WILL HEAR
AGAIN...



WHAT? HOW
COULD THIS
HAPPEN?



WE'RE ALL WITH
YOU, BROTHER
TIBOR.

YES.
WE SHARE
YOUR PAIN.

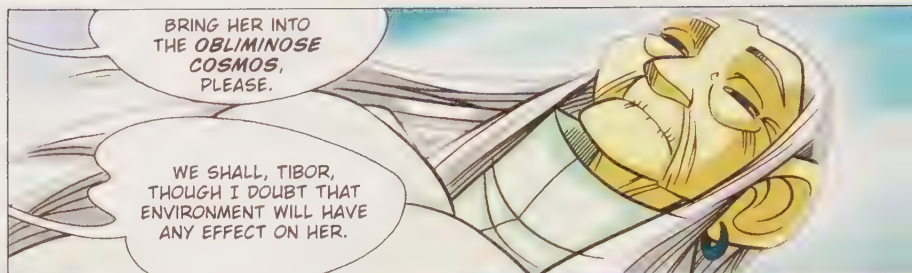


I, ENDARNO,
FUTURE ORACLE OF
KANDRAKAR, PARTAKE
IN THE SUFFERING OF
THE WHOLE
CONGREGATION.



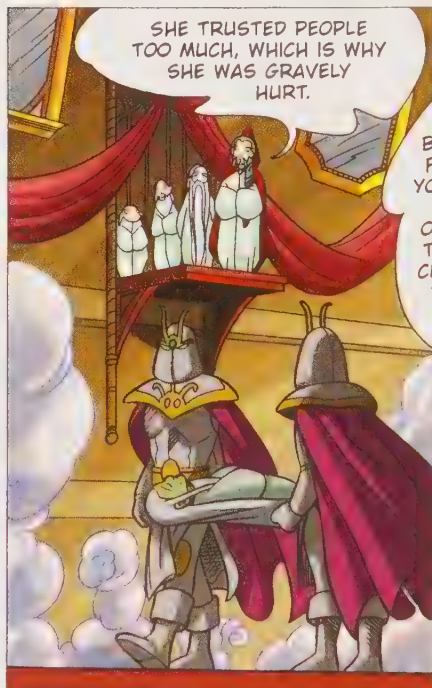
BECAUSE TODAY, A
TRAGEDY HAPPENED
WITHIN OUR ETERNAL
FORTRESS...

...AND OUR SISTER,
THE WISE YAN LIN,
WAS STRUCK
BY EVIL.



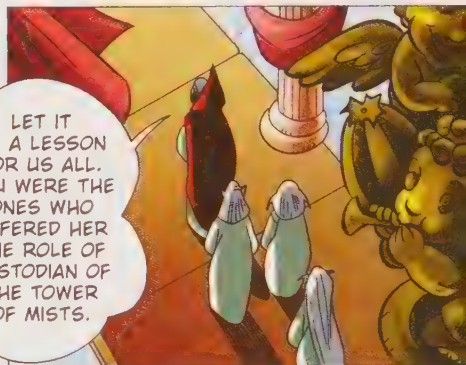
BRING HER INTO
THE OBLIMINOSE
COSMOS,
PLEASE.

WE SHALL, TIBOR,
THOUGH I DOUBT THAT
ENVIRONMENT WILL HAVE
ANY EFFECT ON HER.

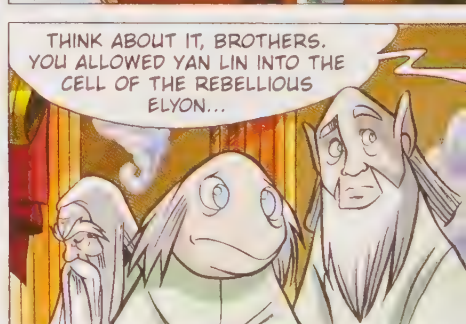


SHE TRUSTED PEOPLE
TOO MUCH, WHICH IS WHY
SHE WAS GRAVELY
HURT.

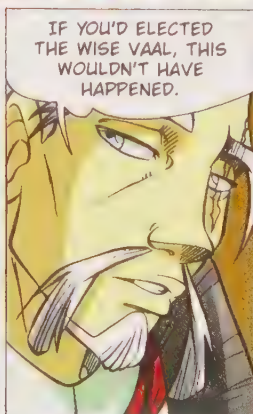
LET IT
BE A LESSON
FOR US ALL.
YOU WERE THE
ONES WHO
OFFERED HER
THE ROLE OF
CUSTODIAN OF
THE TOWER
OF MISTS.



THINK ABOUT IT, BROTHERS.
YOU ALLOWED YAN LIN INTO THE
CELL OF THE REBELLIOUS
ELYON...



...WHO, IN AN EXTREME ACT
OF HATRED, ATTACKED HER,
DISSIPATING HER
REMAINING
ENERGY.



IF YOU'D ELECTED
THE WISE VAAL, THIS
WOULDN'T HAVE
HAPPENED.



YES, THINK ABOUT IT.
BECAUSE IN THIS SAD
MOMENT, WE HAVE
TO MAKE NEW,
URGENT
DECISIONS.

THE DARKNESS,
YAN LIN. DO
YOU FEEL THE
DARKNESS?

IT'S SURROUNDING YOU, AND
SOON IT WILL SWALLOW
YOU.

IT WAS
EASY TO MAKE THE
CONGREGATION BELIEVE
IT WAS ELYON WHO
STRUCK YOU
DOWN.

...BUT I'D LOVE TO
TELL THEM I'M THE ONE
WHO DEFEATED YOU!

"AFTER AMBUSHING YOU IN
ELYON'S CELL BESIDE MY DEAR
SISTER, NOW DEVOID
OF STRENGTH...

"...I REALIZED YOUR BODY
WAS IN KANDRAKAR WHILE
YOUR MIND FLOATED IN
SOME DISTANT DREAM."

"SO USING MY POWERS, I
INTERCEPTED YOUR MIND
ESSENCE AND DISCOVERED
THAT DREAM..."

"...BELONGED
TO WILL!"

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU TOLD
THE HEART'S CUSTODIAN.
YOU PROBABLY TALKED
TO ELYON...

...AND HAVING
DISCERNED THE TRUTH,
YOU DECIDED TO WARN
THE GUARDIANS
ABOUT ME.

"BUT I DISCOVERED
YOUR PLOT **IN TIME**
AND SILENCED YOU..."

"...FOREVER!"

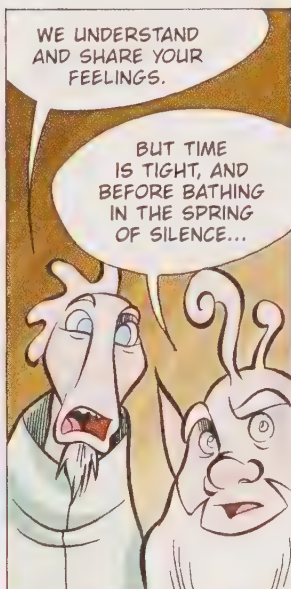


NOW I JUST
HAVE TO FIND
OUT HOW MUCH
WILL KNOWS.



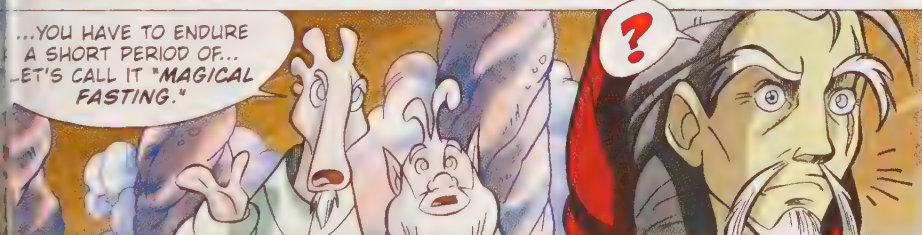
WISE
ENDARNO...

YES? WHO
BOTHERS
ME IN THIS
SORROWFUL
MOMENT OF
REFLECTION?



WE UNDERSTAND
AND SHARE YOUR
FEELINGS.

BUT TIME
IS TIGHT, AND
BEFORE BATHING
IN THE SPRING
OF SILENCE...

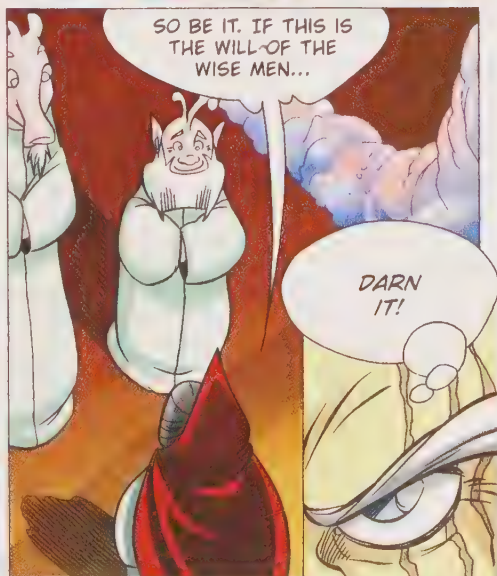


...YOU HAVE TO ENDURE
A SHORT PERIOD OF...
LET'S CALL IT "MAGICAL
FASTING."



YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO USE
YOUR POWERS AND WILL
STAY IN THE ROOM OF
NOTHINGNESS...

...WHERE
YOU'LL MEDITATE,
WAY FROM EVERY-
ONE, ABOUT YOUR
NEW ROLE.



SO BE IT. IF THIS IS
THE WILL OF THE
WISE MEN...

DARN
IT!



I FORGOT HOW LENGTHY
THESE INVESTITURE
CEREMONIES ARE.

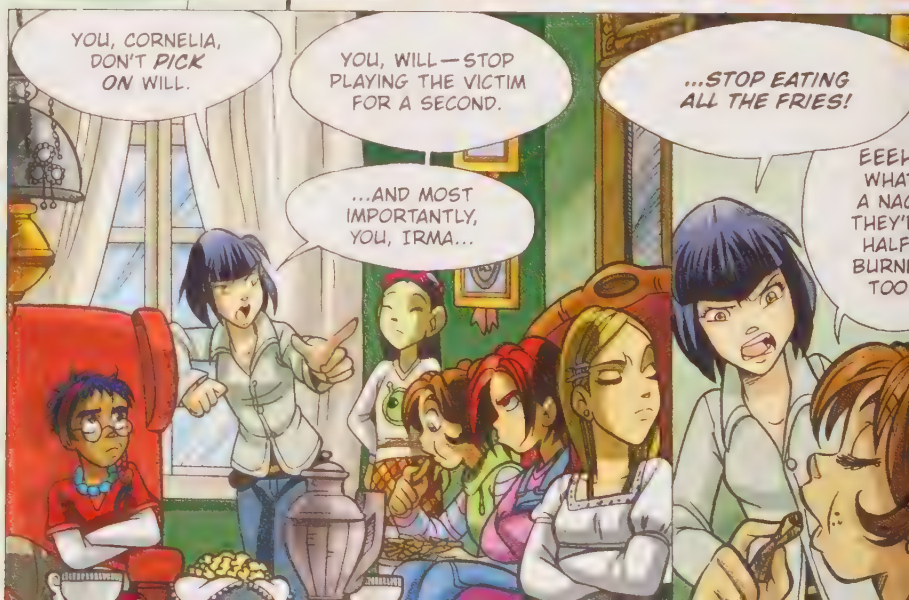
I'LL HAVE TO DEAL
WITH WILL LATER AND
BE PATIENT. I CAN'T
SLIP UP NOW.

BUT BEFORE BEING
LOCKED IN THE ROOM
OF NOTHINGNESS, I'LL
TELEPATHICALLY CONTACT
CEDRIC ON EARTH...

"...AND I'LL ASK HIM
TO KEEP AN EYE ON
THE GUARDIANS."

**ENOUGH!
SHUT UP, ALL
OF YOU!**

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YOU, CORNELIA,
DON'T PICK
ON WILL.

YOU, WILL — STOP
PLAYING THE VICTIM
FOR A SECOND.

...AND MOST
IMPORTANTLY,
YOU, IRMA...

**...STOP EATING
ALL THE FRIES!**

EEEH
WHAT
A NAO
THEY'VE
HALF
BURNED
TOO



AND STOP ACTING LIKE
YOU OWN THE PLACE!
THIS IS **MY** HOUSE
TOO!

I AGREE,
BUT THAT'S
MY DINNER!



ORUBE'S RIGHT
TO CHEW US OUT.
YET AGAIN, WE END
UP **BICKERING...**

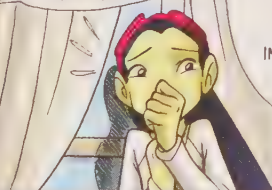


...WHEN, IN THE
LIGHT OF WHAT WILL
JUST TOLD US, WE
SHOULD ACT.

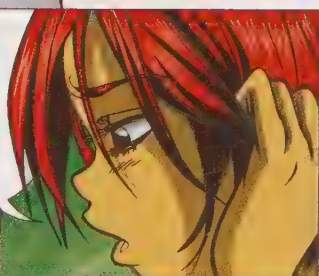
YEAH, THE
LIGHT!



SO NOW YOU POSSESS
THE **ESSENCE** OF
THE LIGHT OF
MERIDIAN!



YES. YAN LIN
GAVE IT TO
ME BEFORE
PHOBOS
INTERRUPTED
US.

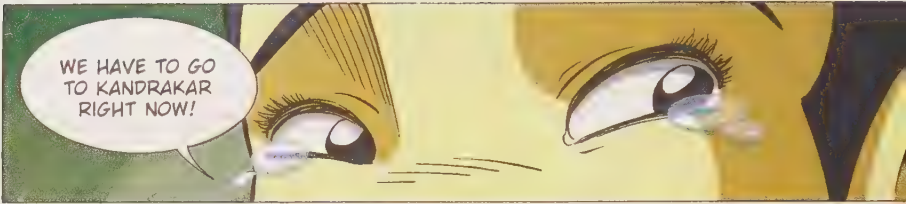


AND WHAT HAPPENED
TO MY GRANDMA?

I...I DON'T
KNOW.



I'M SORRY!



WE HAVE TO GO
TO KANDRAKAR
RIGHT NOW!



YES, THAT'S THE **RIGHT**
DECISION, BUT WE
NEED A PLAN.

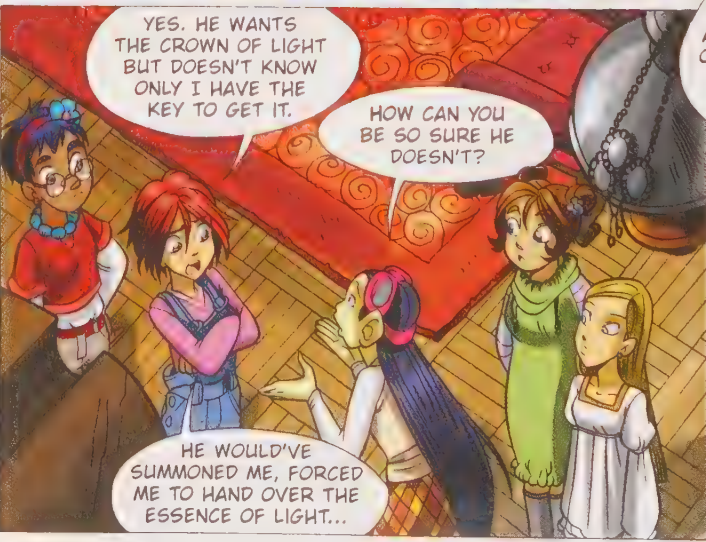
ORUBE'S RIGHT.
WE NEED TO BE
CAUTIOUS, AND WE
ABSOLUTELY GOTTA
HAVE A PLAN.



IF PHOBOS IS REALLY HIDING
INSIDE ENDARNO'S BODY, WE
CAN'T FACE HIM **ALONE**.

BUT WE HAVE AN
ADVANTAGE. WE
HAVE SOMETHING
HE WANTS.

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YES, HE WANTS
THE CROWN OF LIGHT
BUT DOESN'T KNOW
ONLY I HAVE THE
KEY TO GET IT.

HOW CAN YOU
BE SO SURE HE
DOESN'T?

HE WOULD'VE
SUMMONED ME, FORCED
ME TO HAND OVER THE
ESSENCE OF LIGHT...

...AND MAYBE
ACCUSED ME IN FRONT
OF THE CONGREGATION
OF HAVING PLOTTED
AGAINST HIM WITH
ELYON.

NO. PHOBOS DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING. HE'S SURE ELYON WILL VOLUNTARILY GIVE HIM THE ESSENCE...

...AFTER HE **CRUSHES** HER SPIRIT.

ANOTHER REASON TO ACT FAST. WE HAVE TO FREE HER BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

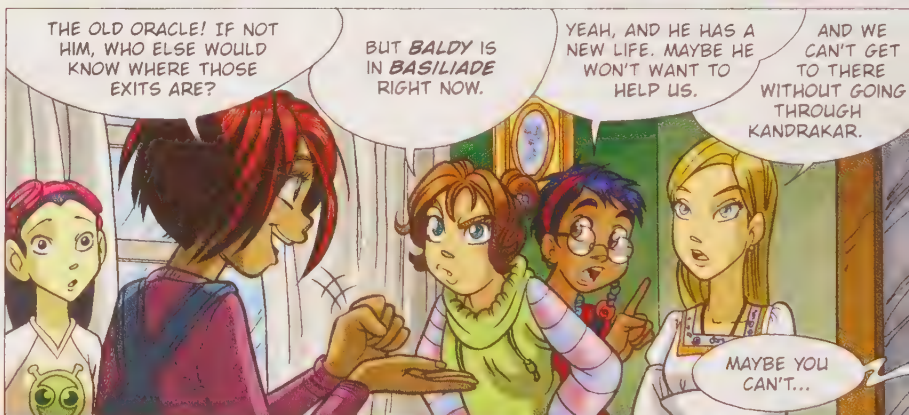
ORUBE. YOU'VE TRAINED IN KANDRAKAR. DO YOU KNOW HOW TO GET INTO THE TOWER OF MISTS?

ONLY THE ORACLE AND THE CUSTODIAN, THANKS TO THE BRACELET, CAN ENTER THAT PRISON.

BUT I DO REMEMBER ONE DAY, WHEN LUBA WAS TRAINING ME IN MEDITATION AND COMBAT...

"...SHE POINTED TO THE TOWER, TELLING ME VERY FEW WISE MEN KNEW OF THE EXISTENCE...

"...OF ONE OR MORE **SECRET GATEWAYS** TO BE USED IN CASE OF AN EVACUATION."



IN THE MEANTIME,
ON THE OTHER SIDE
OF HEATHERFIELD...

Golden

STILL NOTHING. I'VE
SCoured THE WHOLE
CITY, BUT THERE'S NO
TRACE OF THE
GUARDIANS.

THE LAST PLACE TO CHECK
IS MS. RUDOLPH'S
HOUSE.

HMM...HANG ON.
LOOK WHO'S
THERE...

SO, MATT, READY TO PLAY?
THE COURT BEHIND THE
GOLDEN IS FREE.

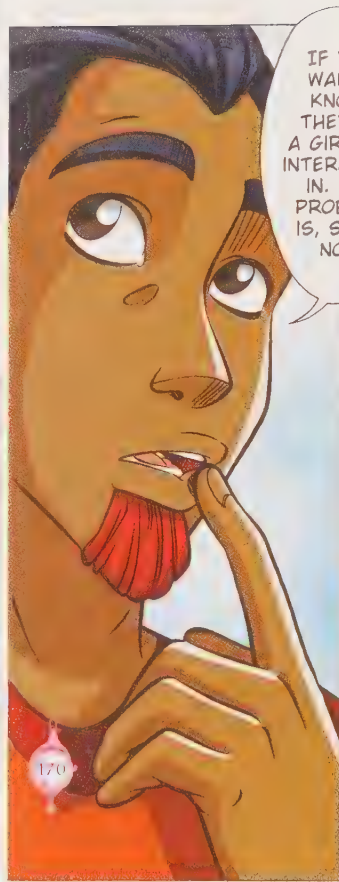
YEAH?
OKAY, PERFECT.

HEY, YOU CAN'T PLAY WITH
THAT LONG FACE. YOU COULD
TRIP ON YOUR CHIN.

SORRY, PETER.
LOUSY DAY.

HEART TROUBLE, HUH?
CHEER UP. YOU'RE NOT
THE ONLY ONE!

C'MON! YOU MEAN
THERE'S SOMETHING
YOU LIKE MORE THAN A
SURFBOARD? I DON'T
BELIEVE IT!



IF YOU WANNA KNOW, THERE'S A GIRL I'M INTERESTED IN. THE PROBLEM IS, SHE'S NOT.



WHEN I CALL, SHE NEVER COMES TO THE PHONE! SHE'S STUDYING OR SKATING OR...

THEN SHE LIKES YOU!



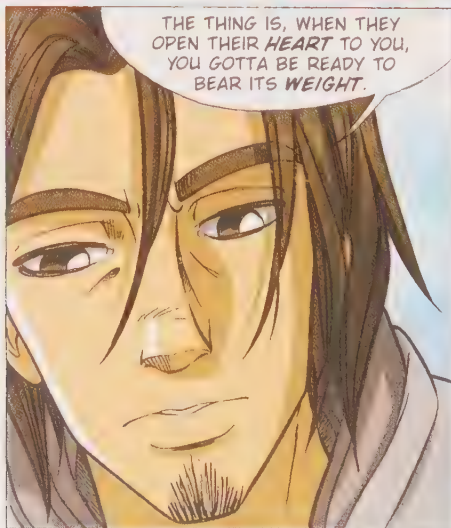
SORRY, WHAT?

SHE'S JUST PLAYING HARD TO GET. IT'S A PLOY, A SUBTLETY.

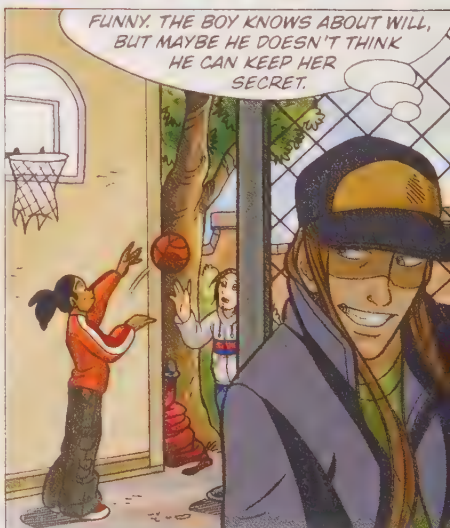


ALL HAIL THE EXPERT! DON'T TELL ME YOU CAN READ GIRLS' MINDS.

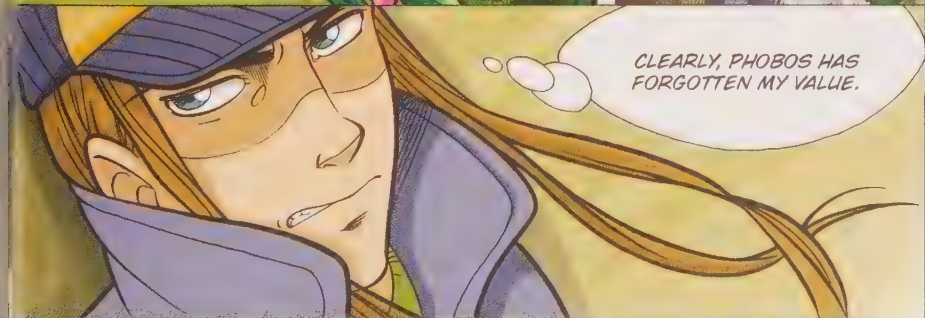
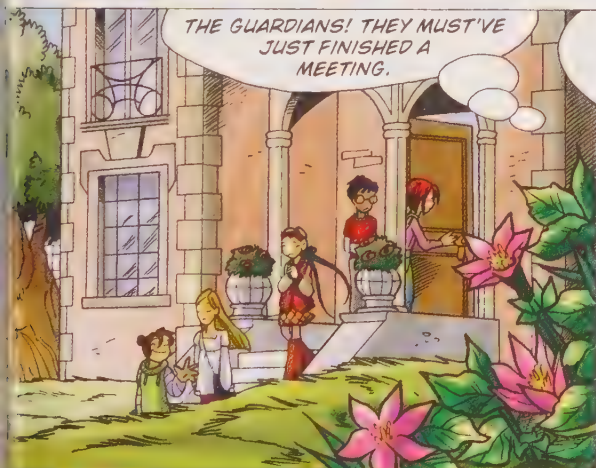
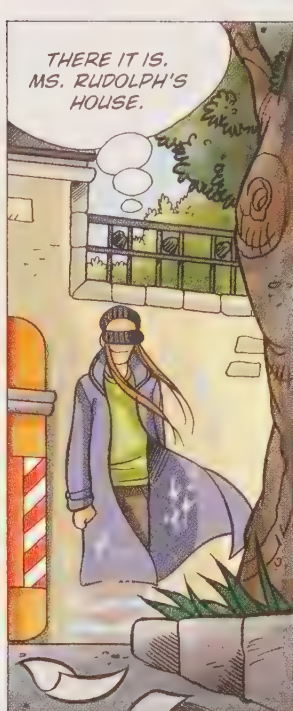
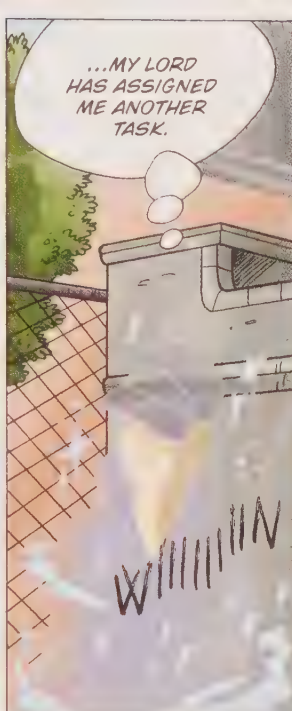
WELL, I CAN ASSURE YOU IT'S NOT ALWAYS AN ADVANTAGE TO KNOW HOW THEY THINK.

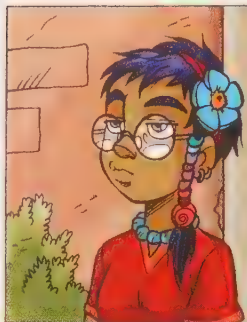


THE THING IS, WHEN THEY OPEN THEIR **HEART** TO YOU, YOU GOTTA BE READY TO BEAR ITS **WEIGHT**.



FUNNY. THE BOY KNOWS ABOUT WILL, BUT MAYBE HE DOESN'T THINK HE CAN KEEP HER SECRET.





YOU OKAY?

YEAH. I
FORGOT TO
SAY BYE.



BYE, REBECCA! SEE YOU
TOMORROW—AND DON'T
WORRY, I'LL CLOSE
THE DOOR!



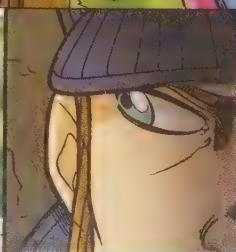
I HAVE TO CONTACT
YOU TELEPATHICALLY.
WHAT'S UP, WILL?

I DUNNO,
TARANÉE.
IT FELT LIKE
SOMEONE
WAS WATCHING
ME.



ORUBE'S
NEIGHBOR?

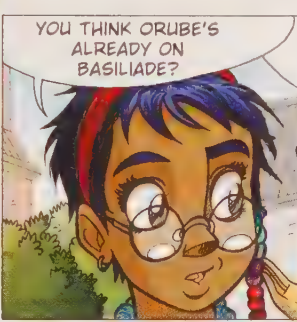
MAYBE.
WOULDN'T
BE THE
FIRST TIME
HE SPIED
ON US.



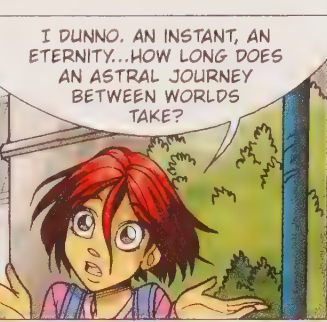


CAN WE
TALK NOW?

I THINK
SO. WE'RE FAR
ENOUGH AWAY.



YOU THINK ORUBE'S
ALREADY ON
BASILADE?



I DUNNO. AN INSTANT, AN
ETERNITY...HOW LONG DOES
AN ASTRAL JOURNEY
BETWEEN WORLDS
TAKE?

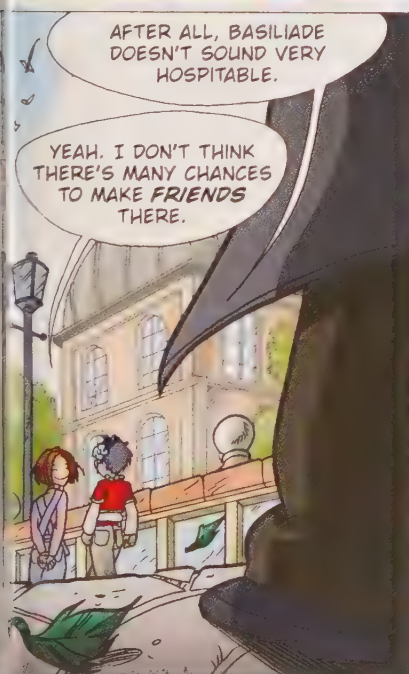


I WONDER WHY SHE
NEVER TOLD US SHE
COULD GO BACK HOME
BEFORE.



I MEAN...SHE STAYED ON
EARTH WITH US ALL
THIS TIME. WHY?

MAYBE SHE
HAD NO REASON
TO LEAVE.

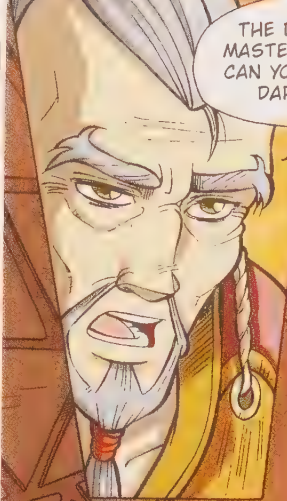


AFTER ALL, BASILADE
DOESN'T SOUND VERY
HOSPITABLE.

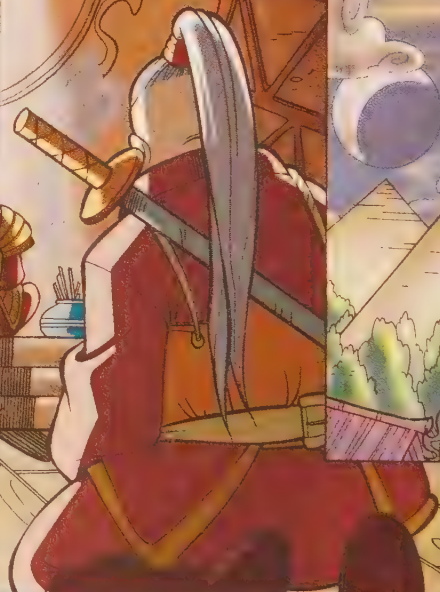
YEAH. I DON'T THINK
THERE'S MANY CHANCES
TO MAKE FRIENDS
THERE.



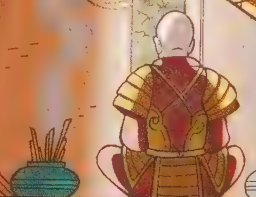
I JUST HOPE SHE
COMES BACK SOON,
SAFE AND SOUND.



THE DARKNESS,
MASTER HIMERISH.
CAN YOU FEEL THE
DARKNESS?



IT'S SURROUNDING
YOU AND WILL SOON
SWALLOW YOU.



BUT IT'S A
GOOD DARKNESS. A
SPECIAL DARKNESS CAUSED
BY A RARE **DOUBLE
ECLIPSE**...

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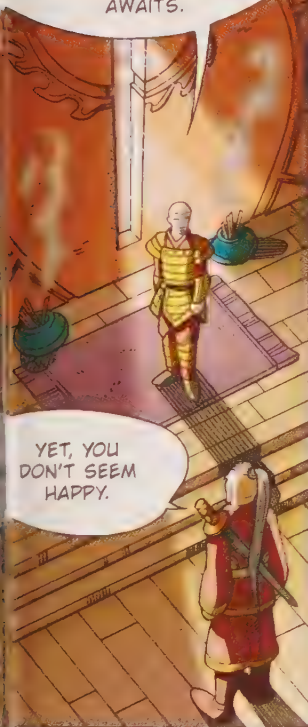


...AND WHEN IT'S DONE,
YOU'LL HAVE COMPLETED
YOUR **INVESTITURE
RITUAL**...



...AND YOU'LL
BE A NEW MAN.
A **SUPREME
WARRIOR**.

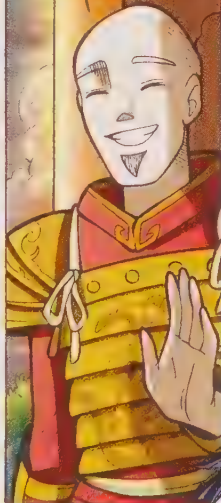
THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU ARE DOING, YARR. NOW THAT I HAVE FOUND MY NAME AGAIN, A NEW LIFE AWAITS.



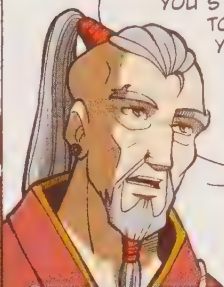
YET, YOU DON'T SEEM HAPPY.

WHY DO YOU LOOK AT THE HORIZON? WHAT DO YOU SEE OVER THERE AMONG THE SHADOWS?

MAYBE MY PAST.



YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD ME WHAT YOU DID IN THE MANY YEARS YOU SPENT AWAY FROM BASILIADÉ.



ONE DAY, I WILL FIND THE STRENGTH TO TELL YOU, MY DEAR FRIEND. FOR NOW, LET US THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE...

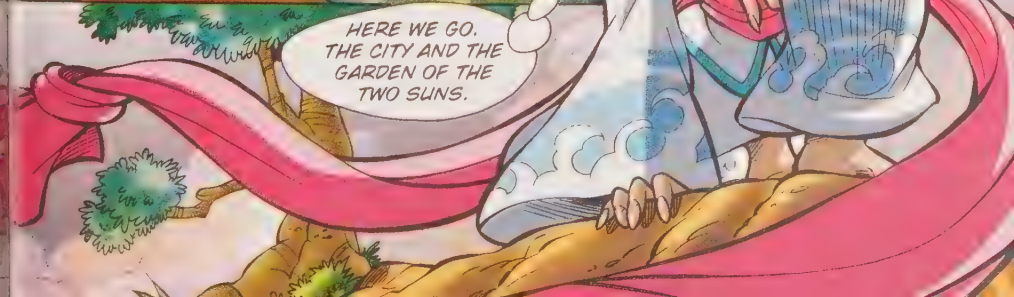


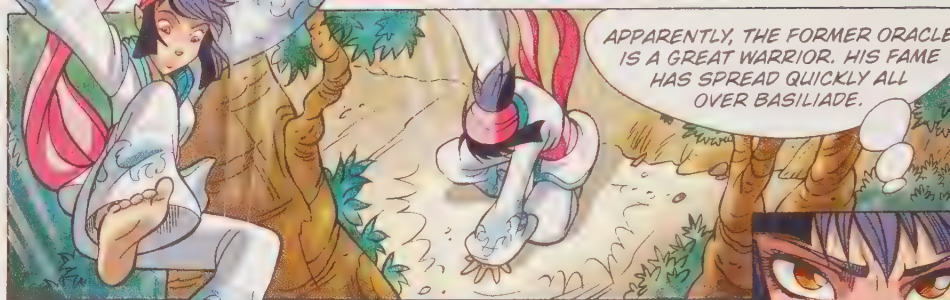
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...AND LEAVE THE HORIZON BEHIND."

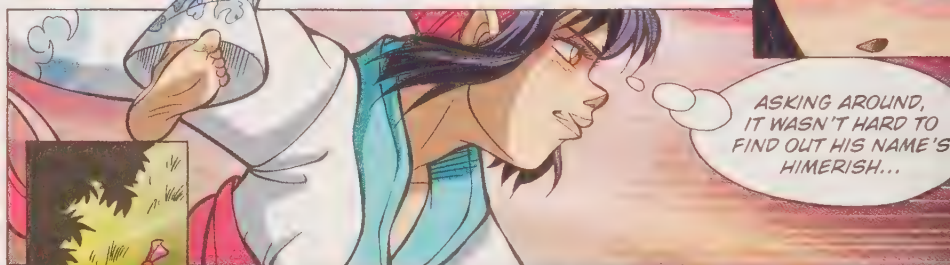


HERE WE GO. THE CITY AND THE GARDEN OF THE TWO SUNS.





APPARENTLY, THE FORMER ORACLE IS A GREAT WARRIOR. HIS FAME HAS SPREAD QUICKLY ALL OVER BASILIADE.



ASKING AROUND, IT WASN'T HARD TO FIND OUT HIS NAME'S HIMERISH...



...AND HE'S ABOUT TO BE GIVEN THE ROLE OF SUPREME WARRIOR.



THE RITUAL IS LONG AND WILL BE COMPLETE WHEN THE DOUBLE ECLIPSE IS OVER



THE PROBLEM IS, I CAN'T WAIT THAT LONG.

STOP!

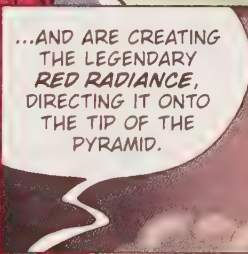


WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

MY NAME'S ORUBE, AND I ASK TO ENTER THE GARDEN.



IMPOSSIBLE. THE INVESTITURE RITUAL HAS STARTED. AS YOU CAN SEE, THE TWO SUNS ARE ALIGNED...



...AND ARE CREATING THE LEGENDARY **RED RADIANCE**, DIRECTING IT ONTO THE TIP OF THE PYRAMID.

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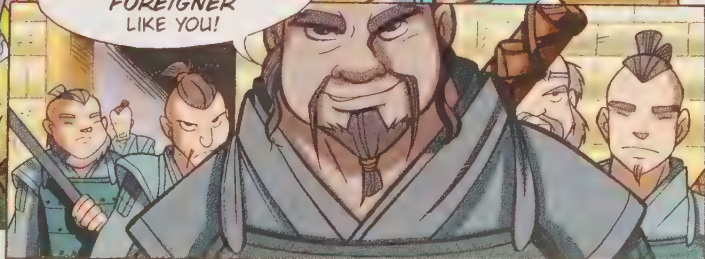
WE'LL ONLY OPEN THE DOORS ONCE THE RADIANCE HAS ABATED.

BUT I MUST GET IN RIGHT NOW!



YOU DON'T GET IT. NOBODY CAN INTERRUPT THE INVESTITURE RITUAL OF A SUPREME WARRIOR.

ESPECIALLY NOT AN ARROGANT **FOREIGNER** LIKE YOU!



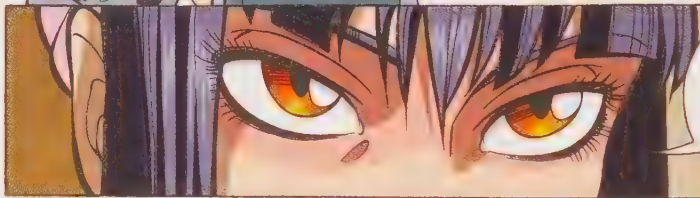


I'M NOT A FOREIGNER. I WAS BORN HERE AND SPENT MY CHILDHOOD IN A GARDEN JUST LIKE THIS ONE.

GOOD.



THEN YOU KNOW YOU HAVE NO CHANCE AGAINST ALL OF US!

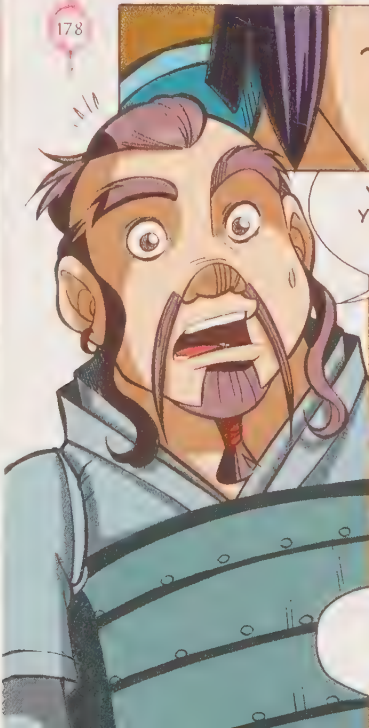


I SAID I GREW UP ON BASILIADE, BUT I HAD MY REAL TRAINING SOMEWHERE ELSE...

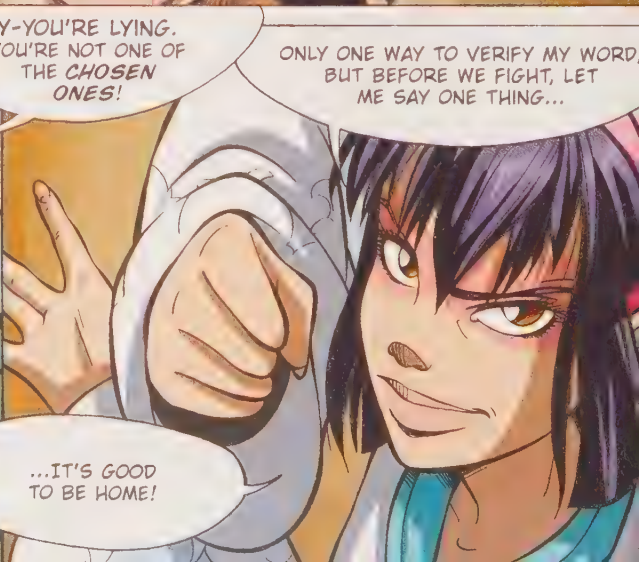


...KANDRAKAR, TO BE PRECISE.

?



Y-YOU'RE LYING. YOU'RE NOT ONE OF THE CHOSEN ONES!



ONLY ONE WAY TO VERIFY MY WORD BUT BEFORE WE FIGHT, LET ME SAY ONE THING...

...IT'S GOOD TO BE HOME!



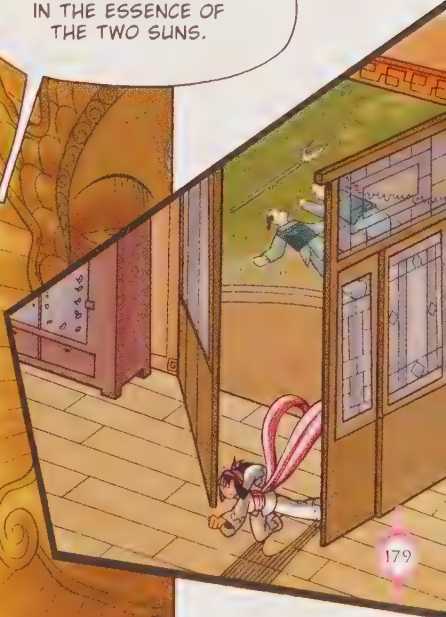
THE TIME
HAS COME...

...TIME TO BATHE
IN THE ESSENCE OF
THE TWO SUNS.

ETERNAL SUM
OF ALL OPPOSITES.
ULTIMATE FUSION OF
DARKNESS AND
LIGHT.



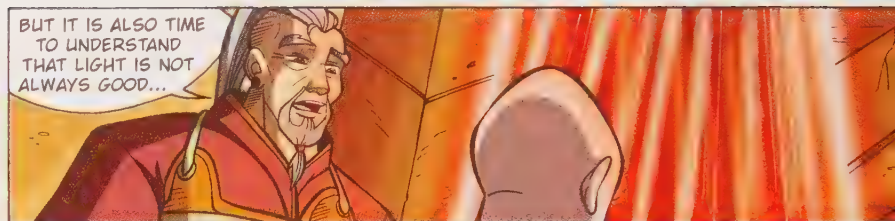
OF GOOD
AND EVIL!



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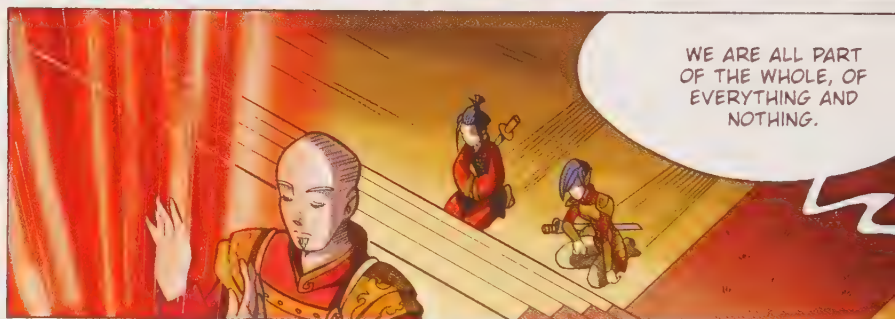
BUT IT IS ALSO TIME
TO UNDERSTAND
THAT LIGHT IS NOT
ALWAYS GOOD...



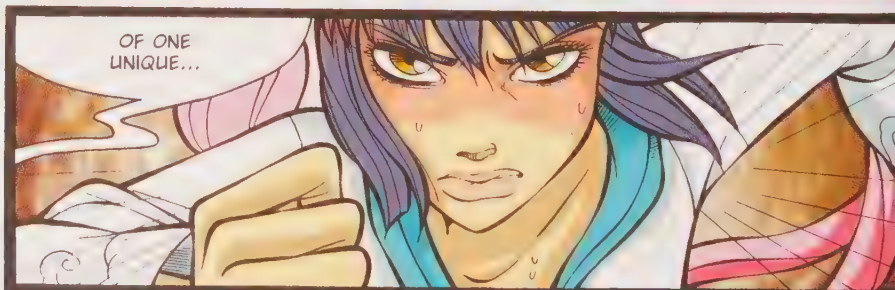
...AND DARKNESS IS NOT
ALWAYS EVIL.



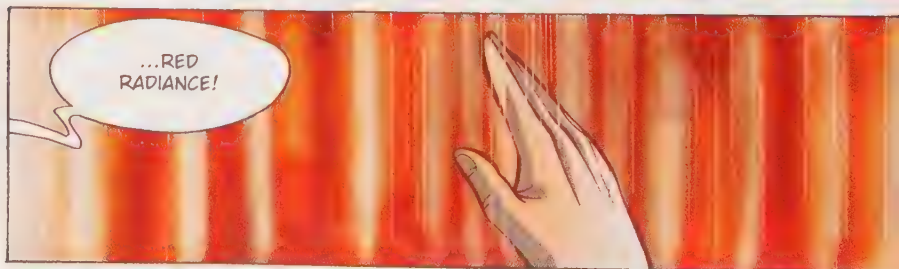
WE ARE ALL PART
OF THE WHOLE, OF
EVERYTHING AND
NOTHING.

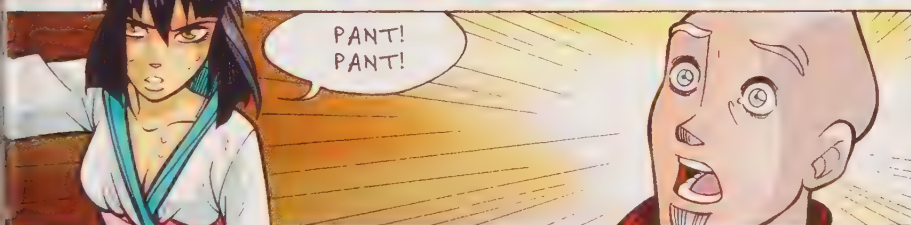
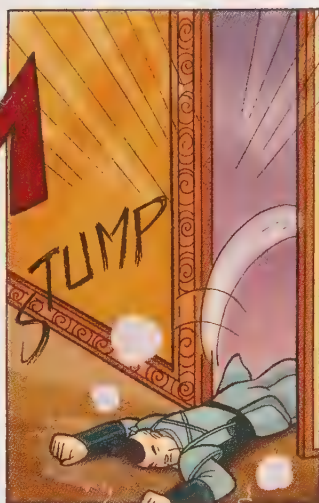
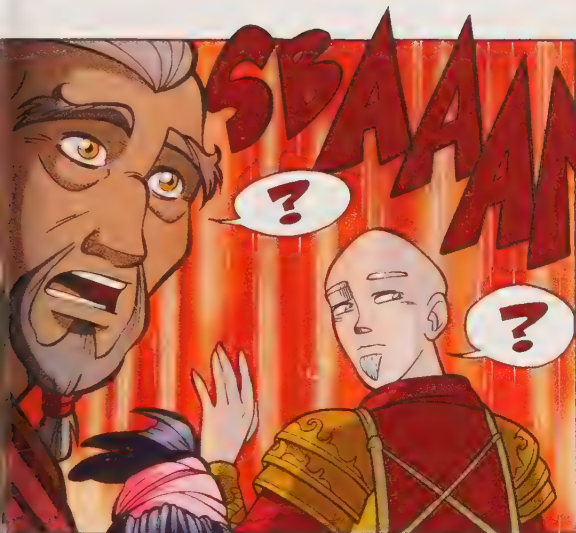


OF ONE
UNIQUE...



...RED
RADIANCE!





WHAT DOES MY NAME...
→COUGH→
...MATTER? OR YOURS?
DO THEY HAVE ANY
MEANING?

BUT HIS DOES. HIS HAS A
PRECISE FUNCTION!

IT CAN GIVE HIM A
NEW APPEARANCE, A NEW
LIFE, BUT I WONDER...

...CAN AN ORACLE OF
KANDRAKAR GO BACK
TO HAVING ANY OLD
NAME AND LIFE?

?

MASTER...THEN YOU...
YOU ARE...

I BEG YOU TO SPARE THIS
BRAVE WARRIOR, YARR.
LET HER THROUGH...

...AND
LET HER
REST!

IN THE MEANTIME,
IN KANDRAKAR...

WE'RE VERY SORRY,
WISE ENDARNO.
WE DIDN'T MEAN TO
INTERRUPT YOUR
MEDITATION...

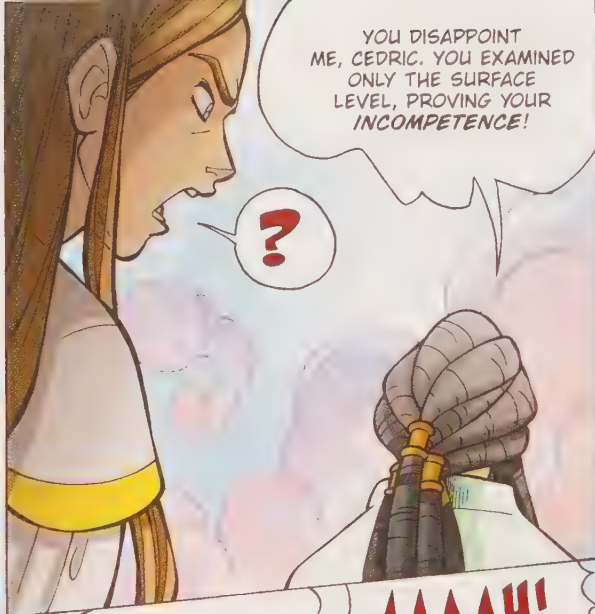
...BUT THE WHITE
HERALD WHO'D
DISAPPEARED SOME
TIME AGO IS BACK*
WITH A MESSAGE
FOR YOU.

*SEE W.I.T.C.H.
CHAPTER 37

JUST IN TIME,
CEDRIC. THANKS TO
YOU, I CAN TAKE A BREAK
FROM MY EXHAUSTING
PREPARATION RITUAL.

NOW, PLEASE, GIVE
ME NEWS. WHAT ARE
THE GUARDIANS DOING?
PLOTING AGAINST
ME?

I DIDN'T FIND MUCH. THEY LEAD THEIR
DULL LIVES. THEY'RE NOT VERY
UNITED, BUT THIS IS NORMAL
FOR EARTHLINGS.



YOU DISAPPOINT ME, CEDRIC. YOU EXAMINED ONLY THE SURFACE LEVEL, PROVING YOUR INCOMPETENCE!

?



OLD YAN LIN TALKED TO WILL BEFORE I STRUCK HER DOWN. DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS MEANS?

DO YOU?

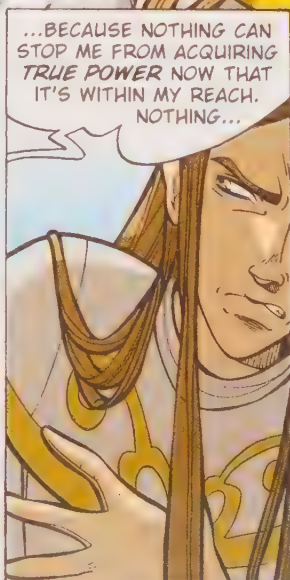
AAAAH!



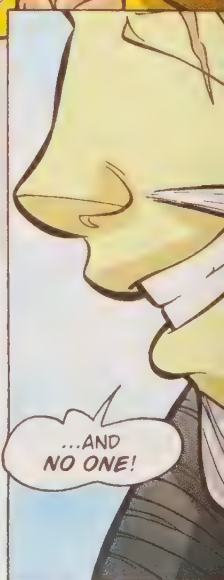
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I HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT THAT GIRL KNOWS, LEARN EACH OF HER MISERABLE, DANGEROUS THOUGHTS...



...BECAUSE NOTHING CAN STOP ME FROM ACQUIRING **TRUE POWER** NOW THAT IT'S WITHIN MY REACH. NOTHING...



...AND NO ONE!

*THE WISE YAN LIN
IS PROBABLY IN
MORTAL DANGER...

*THE PRINCESS
ELYON WILL SOON
GIVE UP...

"PHOBOS IS
SHOWING HIS
TRUE, EVIL FACE."

HOW COULD ALL THIS
HAPPEN? HOW COULD
I HAVE BEEN SO
BLIND?

IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT. YOU DID
WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS
RIGHT, ORACLE.

DO NOT CALL ME THAT.
I DO NOT DESERVE
THAT TITLE.

PHOBOS
CERTAINLY DESERVES
IT EVEN LESS!

YOU ARE RIGHT, ORUBE, BUT HOW CAN I HELP YOU? I HAVE NO POWERS LEFT.

THE GUARDIANS OF KANDRAKAR AND I NEED ONLY YOUR KNOWLEDGE.

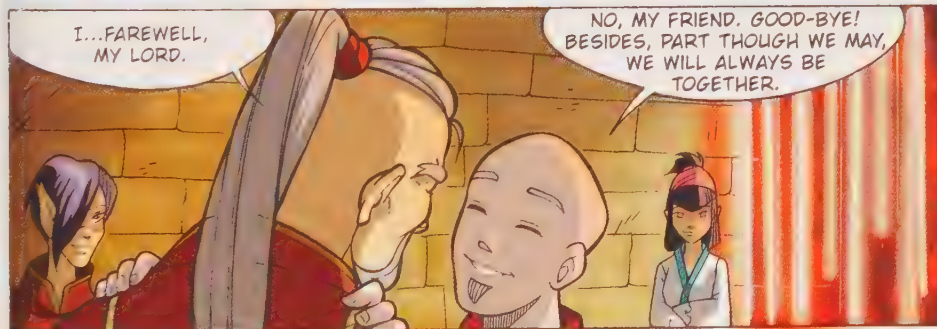
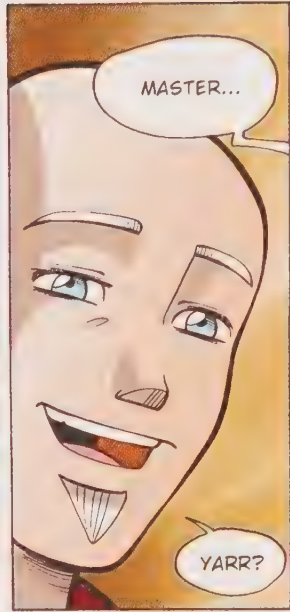
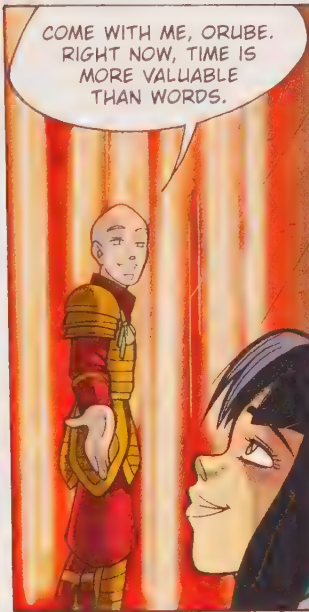
THE THING IS I CANNOT EVEN FOLLOW YOU. YOU CAN TRAVEL TO ANYWHERE FROM HOME WHENEVER YOU WANT, BUT I...

...I CAN NO LONGER TRAVEL BETWEEN WORLDS.

BUT MAYBE, MASTER, YOU CAN GET THAT ABILITY BACK.

AT THE END OF THE RITUAL, EACH SUPREME WARRIOR HAS THE RIGHT TO ASK THE RED RADIANCE FOR AN ANCESTRAL GIFT.

THE RADIANCE CAN FIND A LOST ABILITY DEEP IN SOMEONE'S HEART. SOMETHING INTIMATE AND PERSONAL.



END OF
CHAPTER 43

Witch

Will Irma Tarance Gernold May Lin





Never Alone Again

"I'd like to be near
you without
making you suffer"

Witch

Will Irma Tarance Cornelia May Lin

HEATHERFIELD.
A NORMAL
SATURDAY...

...BUT NOT FOR
EVERYONE!

THERE'S AN
UNUSUAL AMOUNT
OF ACTIVITY AT
THE ICE RINK.

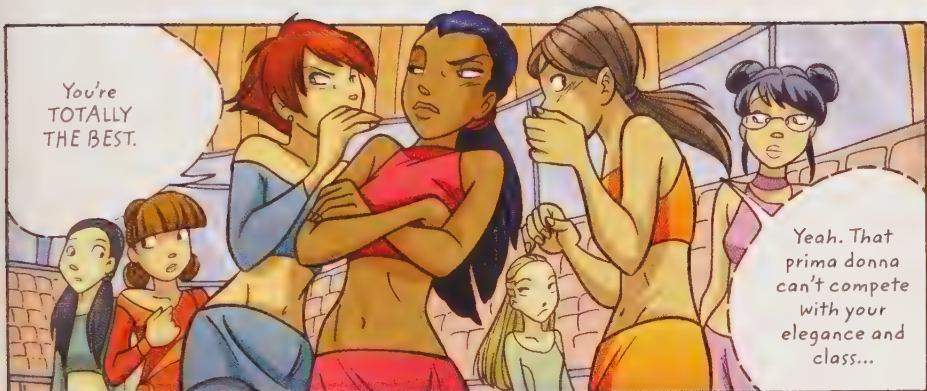
THEY'RE ABOUT
TO ANNOUNCE THE
NAME OF THE GIRL
WHO HAS BEEN
SELECTED...

...TO REPRESENT THE ICE
SKATING SCHOOL AT THE
UPCOMING REGIONAL
COMPETITION.

PEOPLE ARE
WHISPERING
THE NAMES OF
TWO POSSIBLE
CANDIDATES...

You mean...
HALE? C'mon,
VENUS, it's
RIDICULOUS.





You're
TOTALLY
THE BEST.

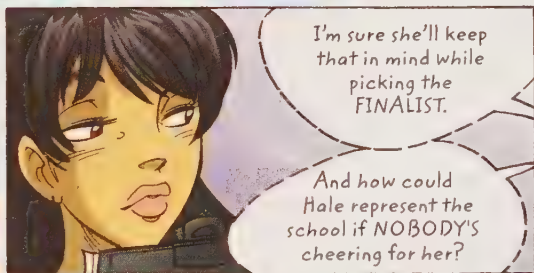
Yeah. That
prima donna
can't compete
with your
elegance and
class...



...and she
knows it! Last
time she went up
against you, she
SNEAKED OFF
with some
feeble
excuse!*

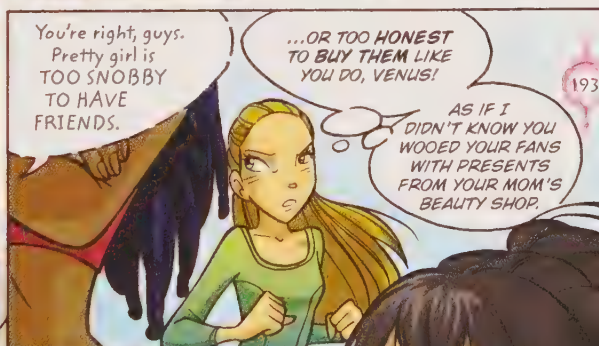
I don't think
MISS PINNEY
was too happy
about that.

*THAT WAS N.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 39



I'm sure she'll keep
that in mind while
picking the
FINALIST.

And how could
Hale represent the
school if **NOBODY'S**
cheering for her?

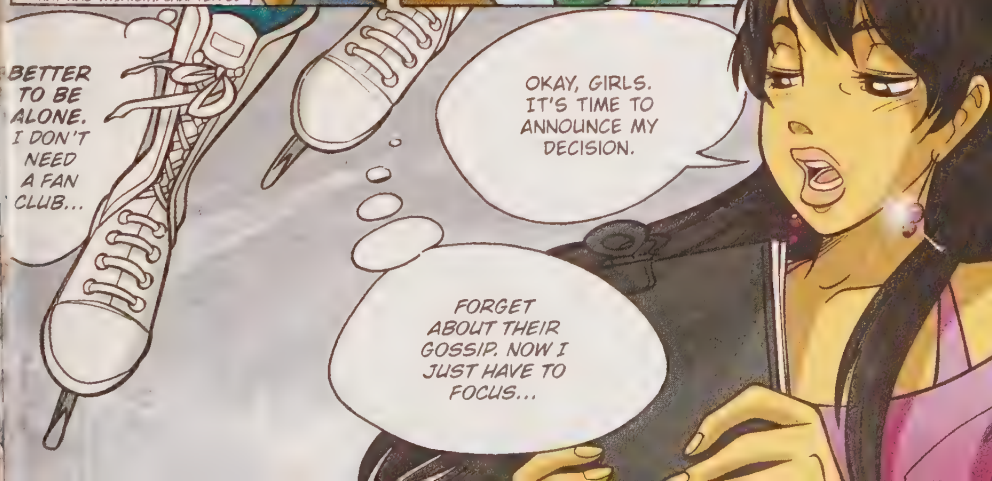


You're right, guys.
Pretty girl is
TOO SNOBBY
TO HAVE
FRIENDS.

...OR **TOO HONEST**
TO **BUY THEM LIKE**
YOU DO, VENUS!

AS IF I
DIDN'T KNOW YOU
WOOD YOUR FANS
WITH PRESENTS
FROM YOUR MOM'S
BEAUTY SHOP.

193



BETTER
TO BE
ALONE.
I DON'T
NEED
A FAN
CLUB...

OKAY, GIRLS.
IT'S TIME TO
ANNOUNCE MY
DECISION.

FORGET
ABOUT THEIR
GOSSIP. NOW I
JUST HAVE TO
FOCUS...

"...ON THE
WAIT!"

C'MON, GRANDMA...
I'VE BEEN WAITING
FOR AGES.

WHY HAVEN'T YOU
GOTTEN IN TOUCH?
WHERE ARE
YOU?

HAY LIN!
WHERE ARE
YOU?

THAT
SOUP WILL
GET COLD!

HUH?
YEAH...SORRY,
PAPA...

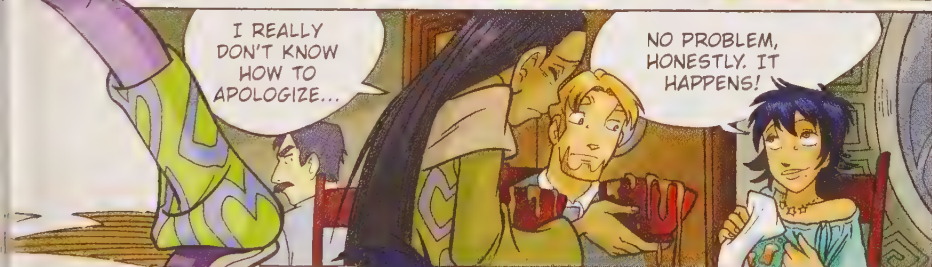
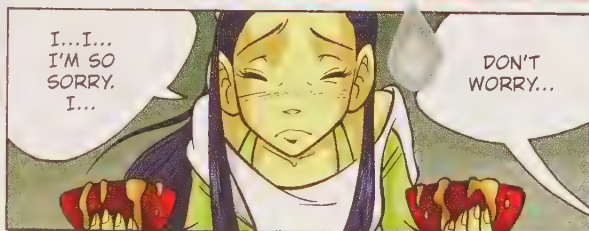
OOF, I'M A TOTAL
DISASTER. FIRST,
I OFFER TO LEND
A HAND, THEN I
FORGET ALL
ABOUT IT!

HERE'S
YOUR SOUP.
ENJOY!

...SO AS I WAS
SAYING, IF WE COULD
FINISH OUR RESEARCH
BY NEXT MONTH...

HAY LIN, NO!
NOT THAT
TABLE!

WHATCHA SAY,
PAP—?



...BUT TODAY, HER LITTLE
HEAD SEEMS TO BE
ELSEWHERE!

SILVER
DRAGON

I'M SO
SORRY, PAPA.
I JUST...

I KNOW YOU'RE UPSET.
AFTER ALL, YOU'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR THIS DAY
FOR SO LONG...

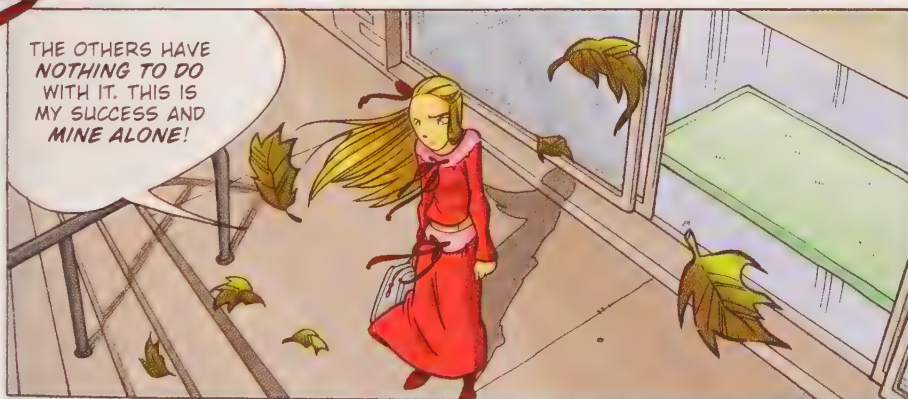
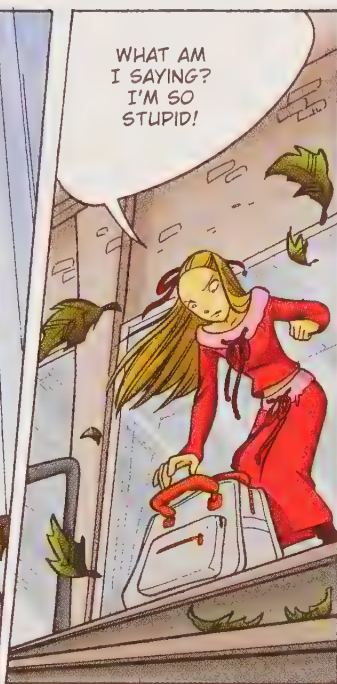
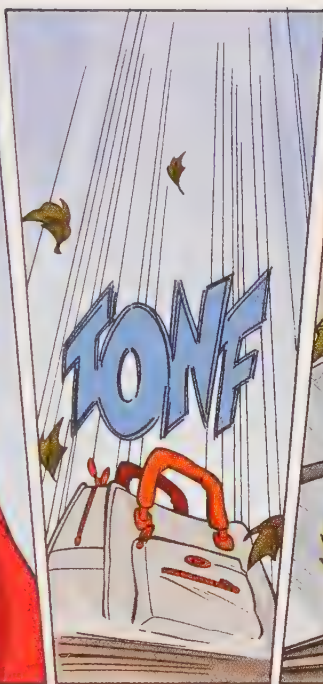
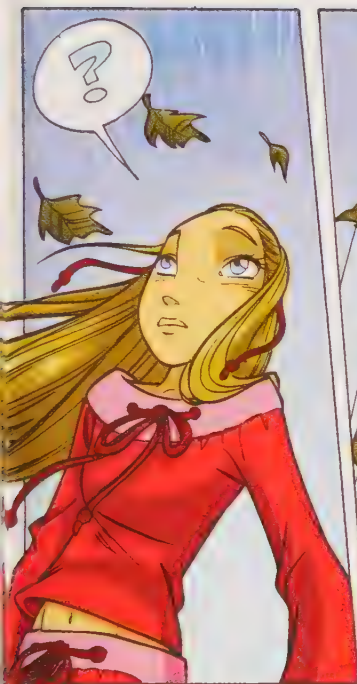
...IN A WAY,
TODAY'S A
SPECIAL
DAY...

...ONE TO
MARK ON THE
CALENDAR!

YEAH...
MAYBE I'M A BIT
NERVOUS...

I DID IT!
I MADE
IT!

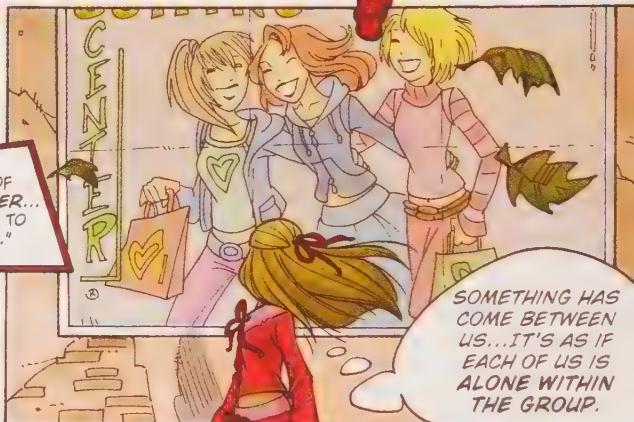
I CAN'T
WAIT TO TELL
THE GUYS!



YEAH...PROBLEMS.
ONCE, I WOULDN'T HAVE
THOUGHT ABOUT IT...I'D
HAVE RUSHED OFF TO
SHARE THIS MOMENT
WITH THE GUYS...

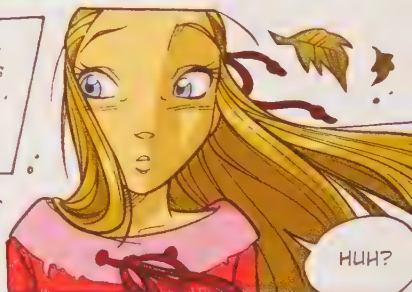
"...BUT TODAY
IS DIFFERENT.
SOMETHING'S
BLOCKING ME..."

"...SOME KIND OF
INVISIBLE BARRIER...
I CAN'T OPEN UP TO
THEM ANYMORE."



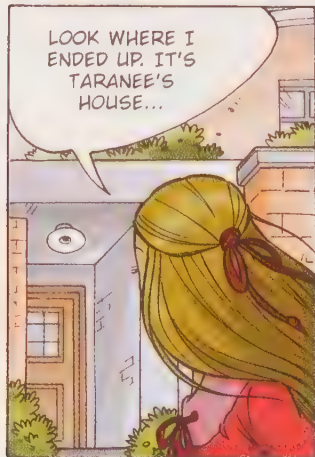
SOMETHING HAS
COME BETWEEN
US...IT'S AS IF
EACH OF US IS
ALONE WITHIN
THE GROUP.

YOU SHOULD NEVER
LET YOUR THOUGHTS
RUN AWAY WITH YOU...
YOUR FEET MIGHT
START RUNNING
TOO.



HUH?

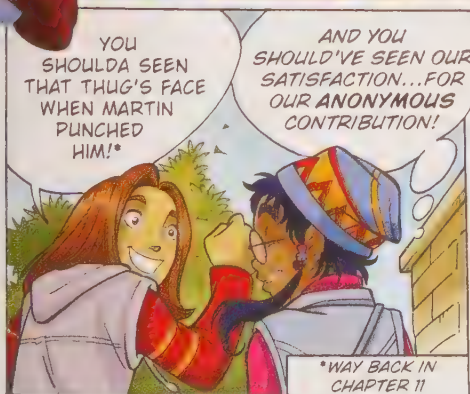
LOOK WHERE I
ENDED UP. IT'S
TARANEE'S
HOUSE...



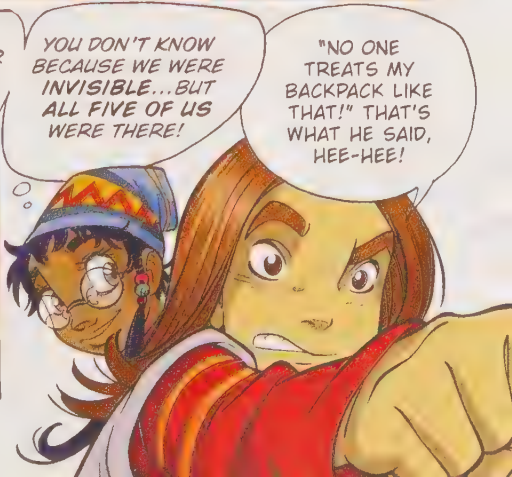
SHOULD I RING
THE BELL
SINCE I'M
HERE...?



HEY...
THAT'S
CORNELIA!



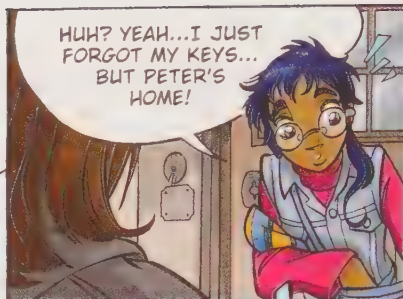
*WAY BACK IN
CHAPTER 11





ALL FIVE
OF US...
UNITED...
HAPPY!

TARANEE...
YOU OKAY?



HUH? YEAH...I JUST
FORGOT MY KEYS...
BUT PETER'S
HOME!



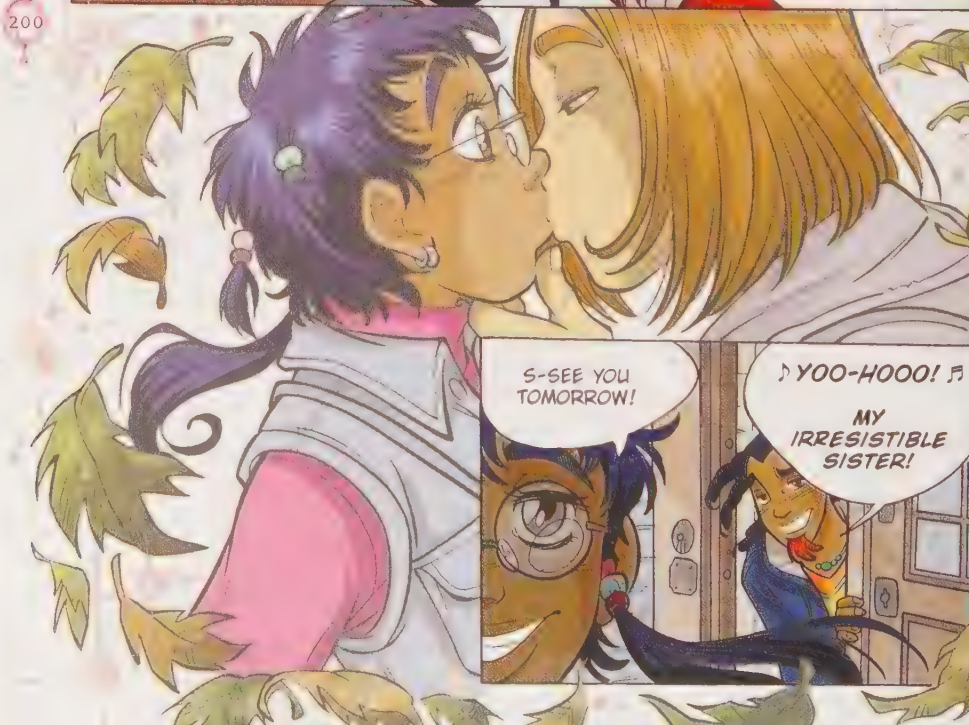
WELL...
THANKS FOR THE
WALK. I HAD A
GREAT TIME.



ME TOO,
NIGEL...



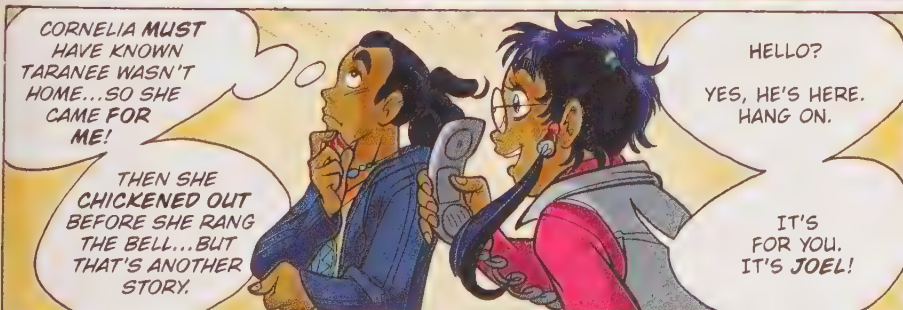
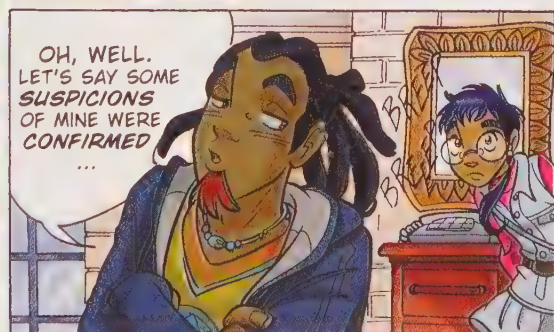
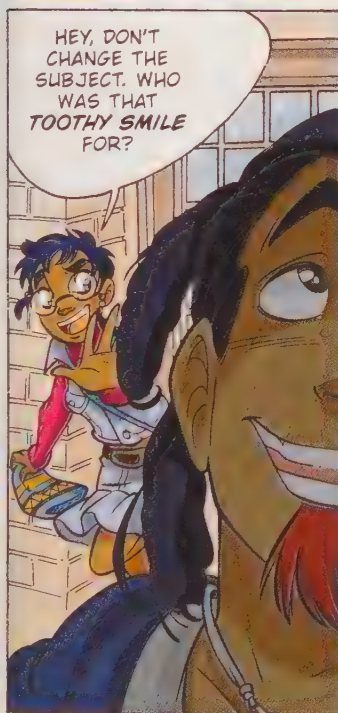
THEN...
SEE YOU
TOMORROW!



S-S-SEE YOU
TOMORROW!



♪ YOO-HOOO! ♪
MY
IRRESISTIBLE
SISTER!



Hey, bro.
What's
up?

MORE LIKE
WHAT'S DOWN,
PETE. I THINK I'LL
HAVE TO DITCH THE
SURFING COMPETITION.

MATT
SAID WE'RE
REHEARSING
WITH COBALT
BLUE LATE THIS
AFTERNOON.

I hear
a SWELL of
enthusiasm
in your
voice.

HERE
YOU GO.

THANKS!

IT'S JUST
THAT TODAY I
DON'T FEEL LIKE
BEING STUCK
IN THE GYM
PLAYING
BASS.

202

"SOME *SUNNY* DAYS
MUST BE ENJOYED
TO THE LAST RAY!"

SO?
HOW ARE
YOUR
PHOTOS?

WELL...MY
SUBJECTS WERE
BOUNCING AROUND.
I DIDN'T MANAGE TO
GET A FULL SHOT
OF ANYONE.

LEMME
SEE...

COOL!
I'M EITHER
BLURRED OR
CUT OUT—EVEN
WHEN I WAS
POSING!

HMPF! REALLY
ENCOURAGING,
Jay!

C'MON, POOR,
MISUNDER-
STOOD ARTIST!
YOU SHOULD
THANK ME FOR
MAKING YOU
FINISH THAT
ROLL OF
FILM.

YOU'RE
RIGHT ABOUT
THAT. THERE
ARE PICTURES
FROM AGES
AGO...

SEEMS
LIKE ANOTHER
LIFETIME...

203

HEY, THIS
ISN'T BAD!
AT LEAST
IT'S
CENTERED.

GIMME
THAT!

SEE? YOU
UNDERESTIMATE ME.
IT'S A PORTRAIT
WORTHY OF A
PROFESSIONAL!

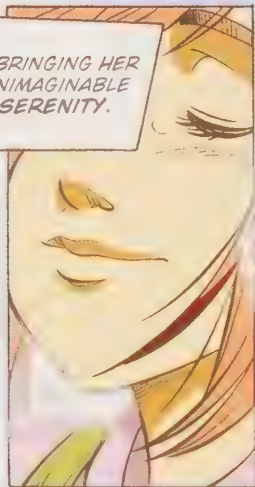
TOO BAD
SHE'S GOT
HER EYES
CLOSED.

EYES CLOSED,
FAR FROM EVERYONE
AND EVERYTHING, WILL
SAVORS SOMETHING
COMPLETELY NEW.

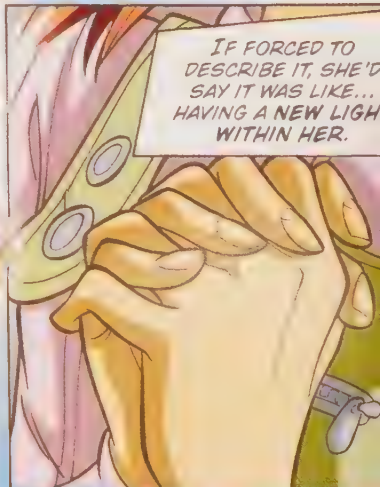


A FEELING OF
COMPLETE WELL-
BEING...SHE'S FILLED
WITH A GOOD, SPIRITUAL
MAGICAL WARMTH...

...BRINGING HER
UNIMAGINABLE
SERENITY.



IF FORCED TO
DESCRIBE IT, SHE'D
SAY IT WAS LIKE...
HAVING A NEW LIGHT
WITHIN HER.



IT'S THE LIGHT OF
MERIDIAN, ELYON'S
MAGICAL ESSENCE,
WHICH YAN LIN
ENTRUSTED TO HER.



SINCE WILL HAS BEEN
CARRYING IT, IT'S AS IF
NOTHING CAN UPSET
THAT TRANQUILITY...

WIIIIIIILL!
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?



...ALMO-

BE RIGHT THERE, MOM!

YOU SAID THAT HALF AN HOUR AGO! IF YOU DON'T HURRY UP, THE SHOPS WILL CLOSE!

SO DON'T COMPLAIN IF YOU'RE OUT OF CHOCOLATE!

I'M READY!

YOU KNOW I'D NEVER MISS WEEKLY GROCERY SHOPPING, RIGHT?

I KNOW THAT THIS SUDDEN ENTHUSIASM IS SUSPICIOUS. WHAT ARE YOU HIDING?

NOTHING YOU DON'T ALREADY KNOW.

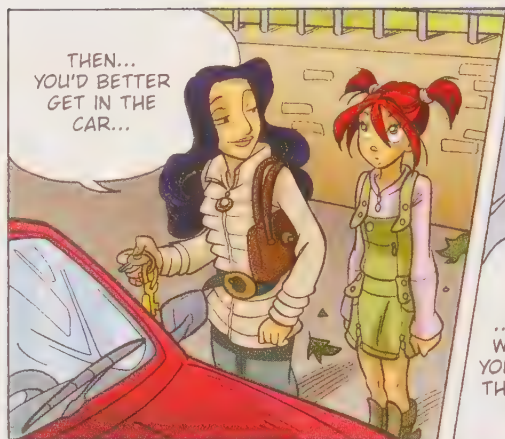
SPEAKING IN RIDDLES NOW, HUH?

205

YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER? OUR LITTLE...UM... DEAL!

I'LL COME GROCERY SHOPPING, HELP YOU CARRY THE BAGS AND PUT EVERYTHING AWAY, AND THEN...

CLACK



THEN...
YOU'D BETTER
GET IN THE
CAR...

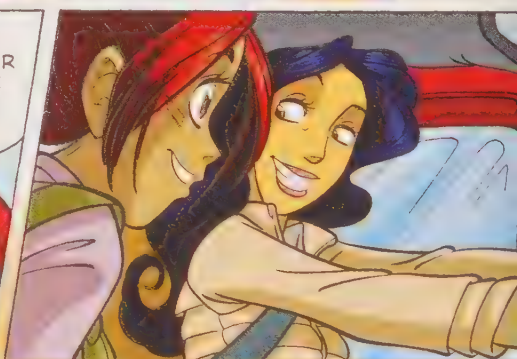


...OTHERWISE,
WHEN I BRING
YOU TO THE GYM,
THEY'LL ALREADY
BE GONE!

THEN YOU
HAVEN'T
FORGOTTEN

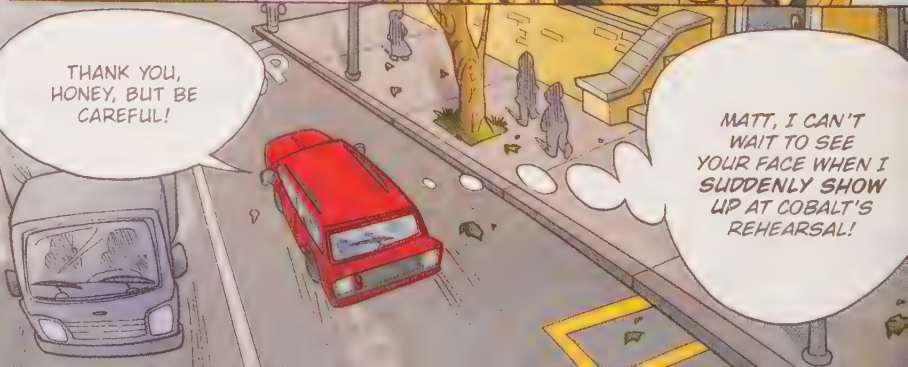


LET'S JUST SAY
I WANTED TO HEAR
YOU REPEAT THE
TERMS OF THE
DEAL!



THANKS,
MOM!

o-Hooo!



THANK YOU,
HONEY, BUT BE
CAREFUL!

MATT, I CAN'T
WAIT TO SEE
YOUR FACE WHEN I
SUDDENLY SHOW
UP AT COBALT'S
REHEARSAL!

WILL YOU BE MORE
SURPRISED...
OR HAPPY?



HAPPY?

I D-DUNNO...
IT'S ALL SO
WEIRD...

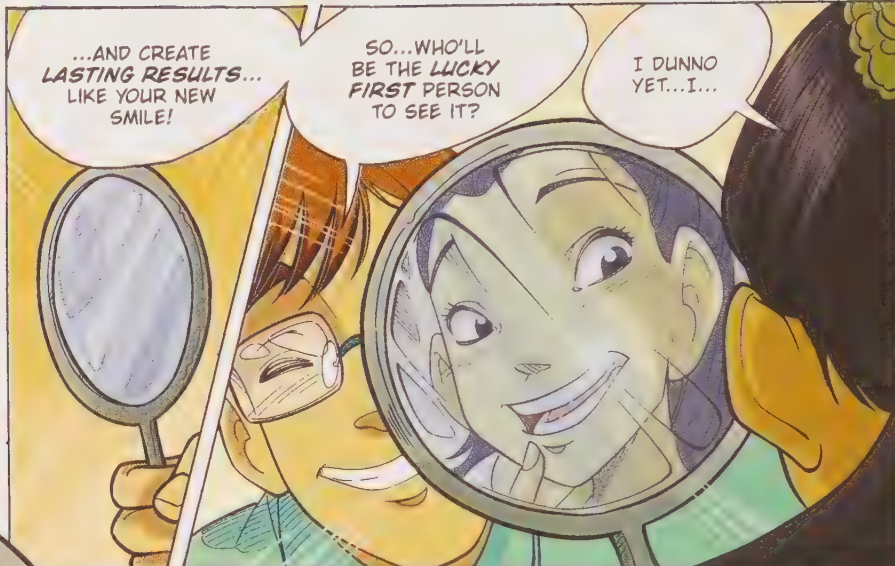
WELL, I
CAN IMAGINE.
YOU'VE BEEN
WEARING YOUR
BRACES FOR A
WHILE AND FELT
LIKE THEY WERE
PART OF YOU.

MAYBE
IT'S HOW IT
FELT TO SEE
THEM TAKEN
APART...

I KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
THINKING. THEY
SEEM LIKE
**USELESS
BITS OF
METAL,**
RIGHT?

ACTUALLY, TAKEN
INDIVIDUALLY, THEY'RE
NOT **VERY USEFUL...**
IT'S WHEN YOU **PUT
THEM TOGETHER**
THAT THEY WORK
MAGIC!

DENTIST



...AND CREATE
LASTING RESULTS...
LIKE YOUR NEW
SMILE!

SO...WHO'LL
BE THE **LUCKY**
FIRST PERSON
TO SEE IT?

I DUNNO
YET...I...

I...

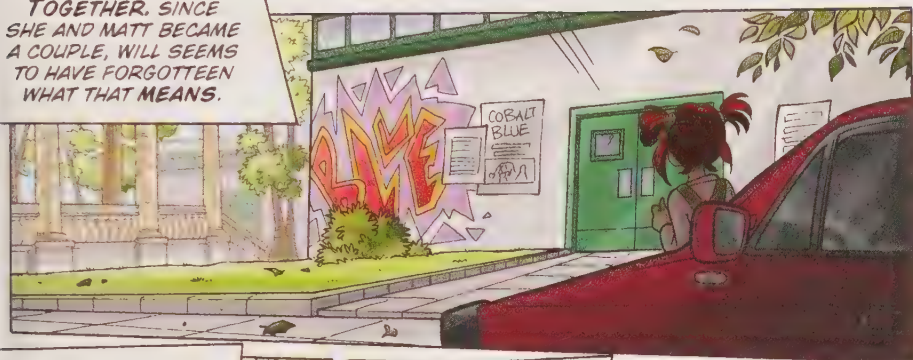
"...I IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT
OF THE **GIRLS**. THEY WERE
THE **FIRST** TO SEE ME
WITH MY BRACES...

"...AND I'D LIKE
THEM TO BE
THE **FIRST** TO SEE
ME WITHOUT...

...BUT NOW IT'S
LIKE **EACH** OF
US IS **ALONE**...
RIGHT WHEN WE
SHOULD BE
STRONG
TOGETHER.

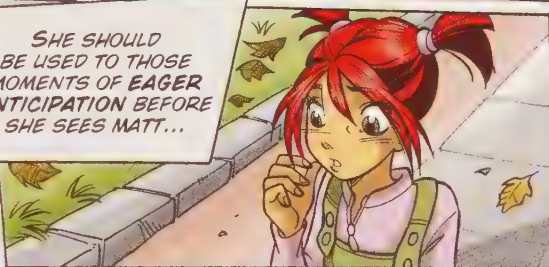
"... BUT BACK
THEN, WE WERE
SO **UNITED**...
SO **CLOSE**..."

TOGETHER. SINCE SHE AND MATT BECAME A COUPLE, WILL SEEMS TO HAVE FORGOTTEN WHAT THAT MEANS.

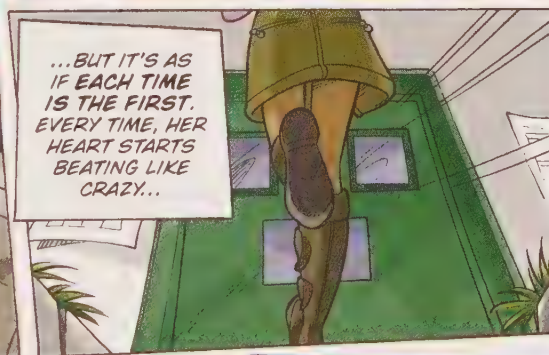


SOMETIMES IT'S ALL SO BRIGHT AND PEACEFUL... OTHER TIMES, SHE FEELS SHE NEEDS AN INSTRUCTION MANUAL.

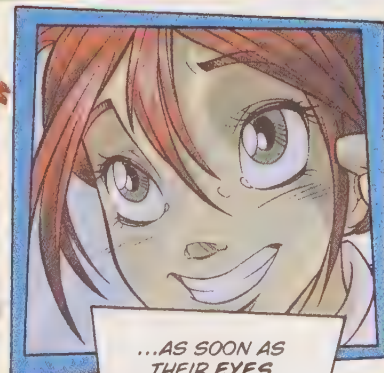
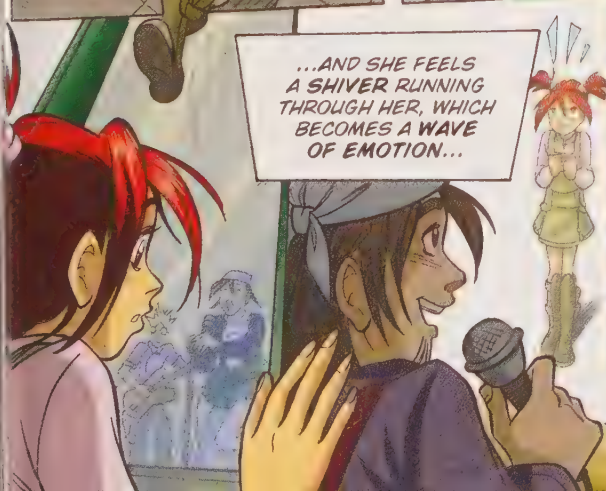
SHE SHOULD BE USED TO THOSE MOMENTS OF EAGER ANTICIPATION BEFORE SHE SEES MATT...



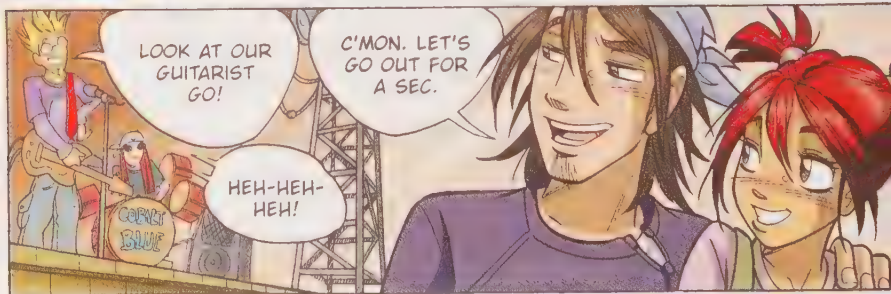
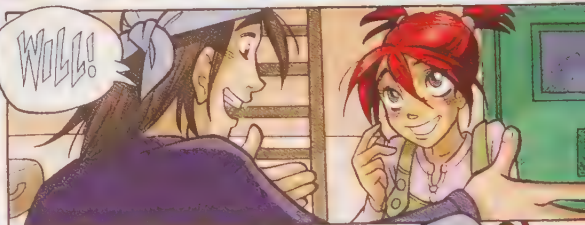
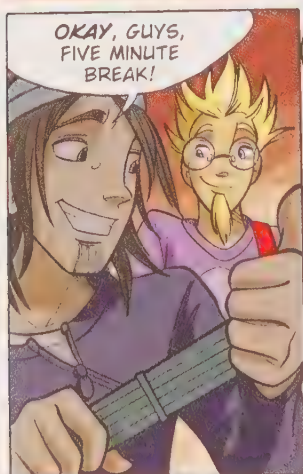
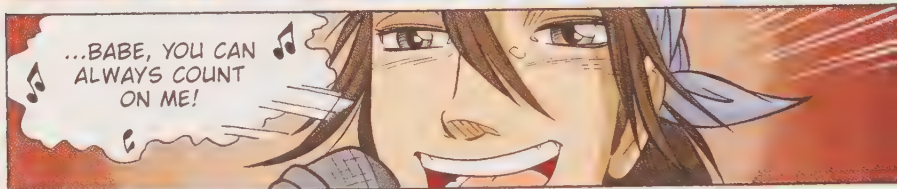
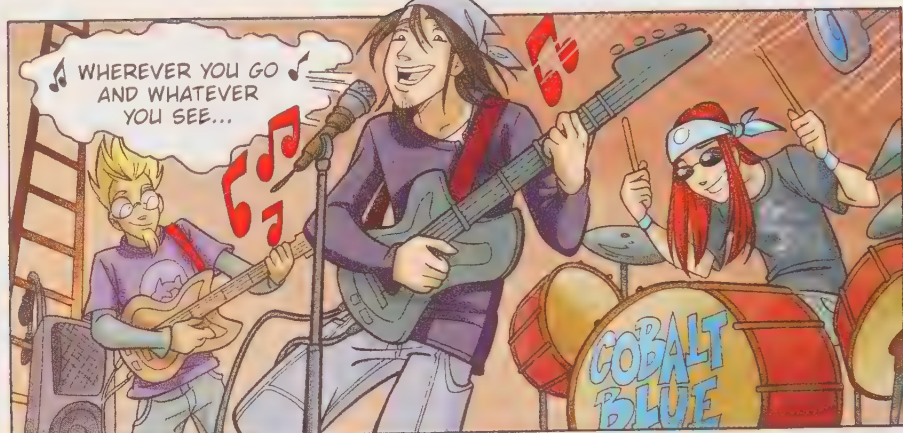
...BUT IT'S AS IF EACH TIME IS THE FIRST. EVERY TIME, HER HEART STARTS BEATING LIKE CRAZY...

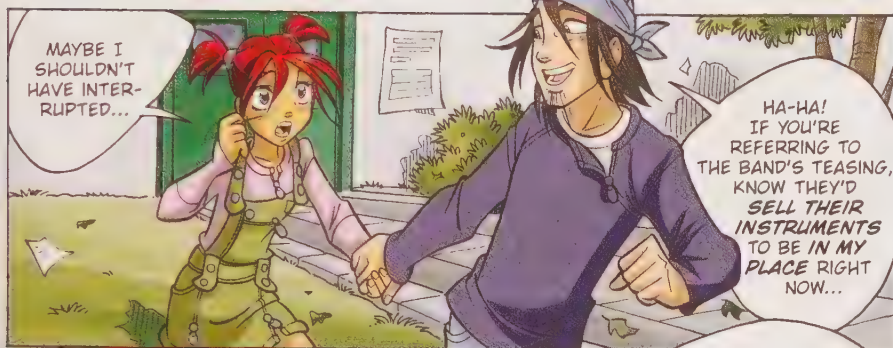


...AND SHE FEELS A SHIVER RUNNING THROUGH HER, WHICH BECOMES A WAVE OF EMOTION...



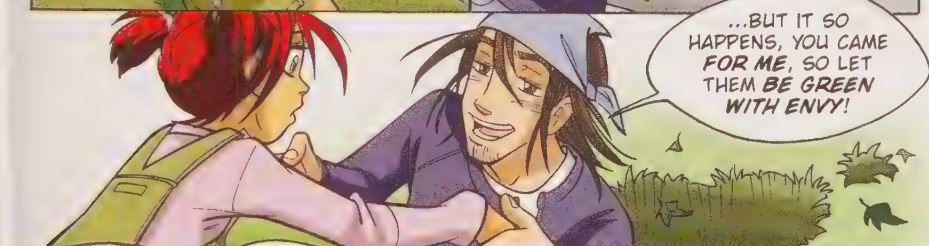
...AS SOON AS THEIR EYES MEET.





MAYBE I
SHOULDN'T
HAVE INTERRUPTED...

HA-HA!
IF YOU'RE
REFERRING TO
THE BAND'S TEASING,
KNOW THEY'D
SELL THEIR
INSTRUMENTS
TO BE IN MY
PLACE RIGHT
NOW...



...BUT IT SO
HAPPENS, YOU CAME
FOR ME, SO LET
THEM **BE GREEN**
WITH ENVY!



YOU REALLY
DIDN'T EXPECT
TO SEE ME?

WELL, I
HOPED TO! BUT
I WAS ALMOST SURE
YOU'D BE BUSY WITH
YOUR FRIENDS
AND...

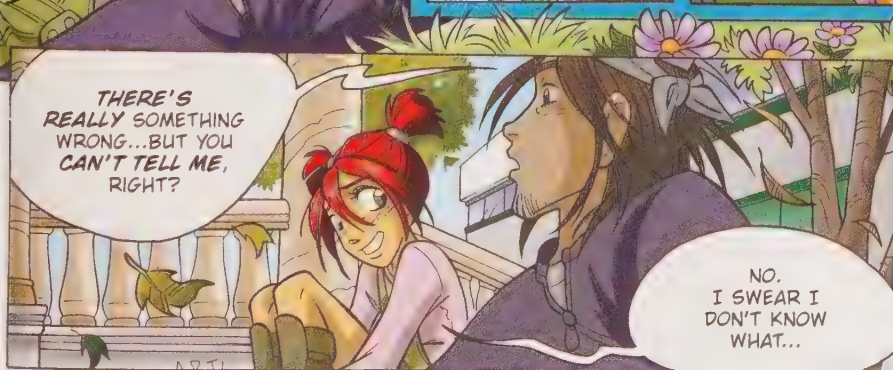


HEY...
SOMETHING
WRONG?

WILL...

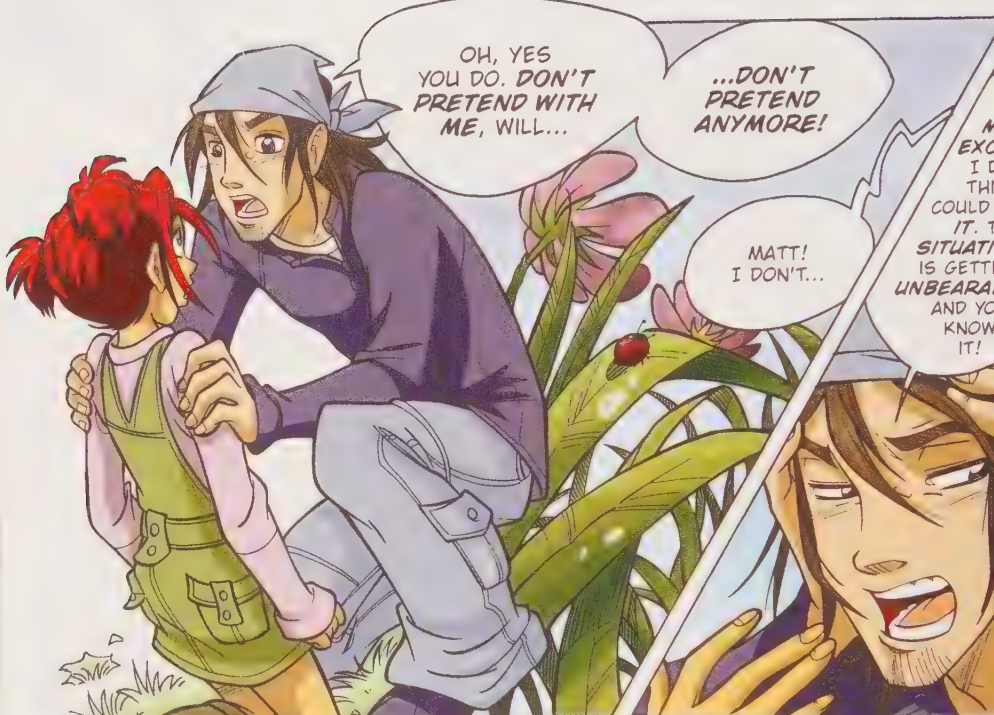
NO...
EVERYTHING'S
FINE. I LIKE
THAT SONG YOU
WERE PLAYING.
IS IT NEW?

211



**THERE'S
REALLY SOMETHING
WRONG...BUT YOU
CAN'T TELL ME,
RIGHT?**

NO.
I SWEAR I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT...

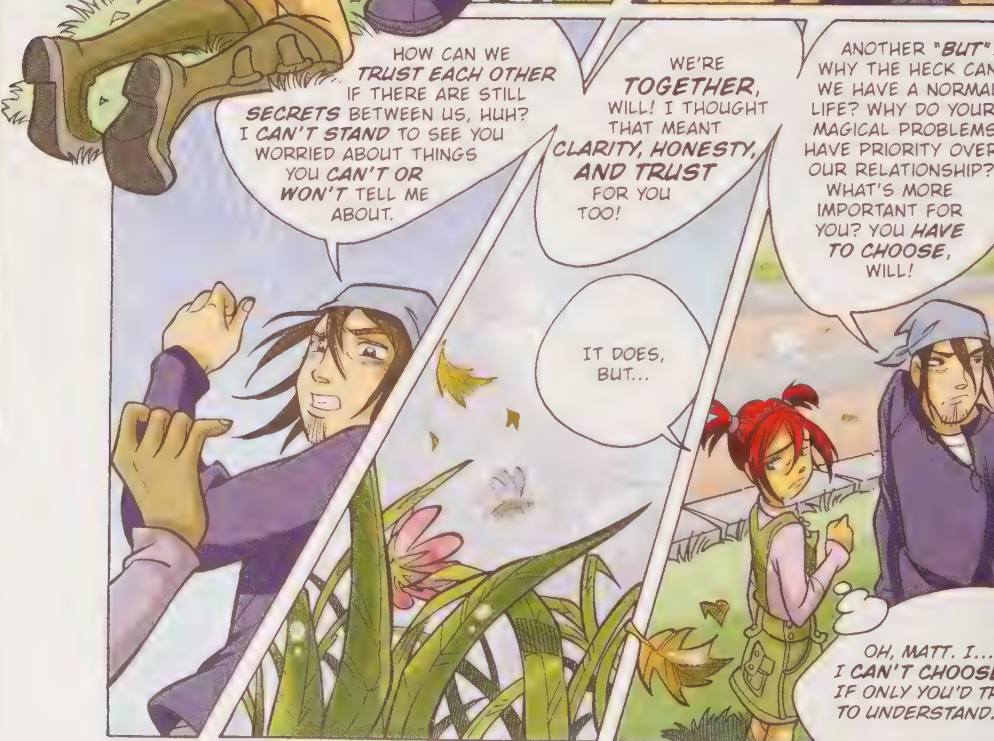


OH, YES
YOU DO. **DON'T
PRETEND WITH
ME, WILL...**

**...DON'T
PRETEND
ANYMORE!**

MATT!
I DON'T...

M
EXCL
I DO
THIN
COULD
IT. TH
SITUAT
IS GETT
UNBEARAB
AND YOU
KNOW
IT!



HOW CAN WE
TRUST EACH OTHER
IF THERE ARE STILL
SECRETS BETWEEN US, HUH?
I **CAN'T STAND** TO SEE YOU
WORRIED ABOUT THINGS
YOU **CAN'T OR**
WON'T TELL ME
ABOUT.

WE'RE
TOGETHER,
WILL! I THOUGHT
THAT MEANT
CLARITY, HONESTY,
AND TRUST
FOR YOU
TOO!

IT DOES,
BUT...

ANOTHER "**BUT!**"
WHY THE HECK CAN'
WE HAVE A NORMAL
LIFE? WHY DO YOUR
MAGICAL PROBLEMS
HAVE PRIORITY OVER
OUR RELATIONSHIP?
WHAT'S MORE
IMPORTANT FOR
YOU? YOU **HAVE**
TO CHOOSE,
WILL!

OH, MATT. I...
I **CAN'T CHOOSE**
IF ONLY YOU'D TR
TO UNDERSTAND..

I'M SORRY, WILL, BUT...
I **DON'T KNOW WHAT
TO THINK ANYMORE.**
YOU SEEM SO **DISTANT**
AND **ELUSIVE**, LIKE
YOU'RE TRYING
TO HIDE.

I THOUGHT
I COULD SHARE
YOUR SECRET, BUT
NOW...IT'S LIKE I
HAVE TO CARRY A
WEIGHT INSIDE...

...A WEIGHT THAT
GROWS MORE
OPPRESSIVE
EVERY DAY.

...THE
**HEART OF
KANDRAKAR.**

I DUNNO HOW TO
EXPLAIN, BUT...I KNOW
THAT FEELING. IT'S
LIKE NOW WE'RE...
**CARRYING IT
TOGETHER.**

THE **HEART** IS
PART OF ME. IT **LIVES**
IN ME. **BEING WITH ME**
MEANS **SHARING THAT**
RESPONSIBILITY. I
ONLY UNDERSTAND
THAT NOW.

I D-DON'T
FOLLOW,
WILL...

WILL...

OH, MATT. HOW COULD I HAVE
KNOWN I'D CAUSE SO MUCH
PAIN? I HAD NO IDEA
THE **ANGUISH**
YOU'D FEEL.

I'D LOVE TO
HELP YOU...BUT
I NEED HELP
TOO!

PLEASE
SAY SOMETHING.
YOU'RE SCARING ME.

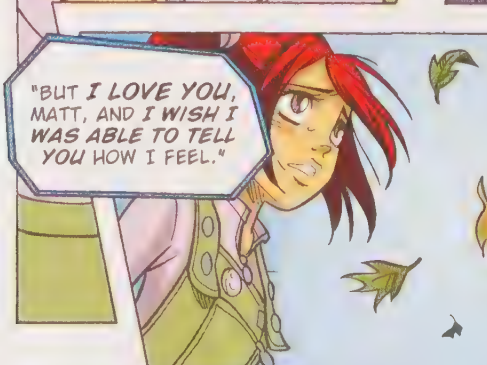


"IT'S SO HARD
TO EXPLAIN,
MATT...

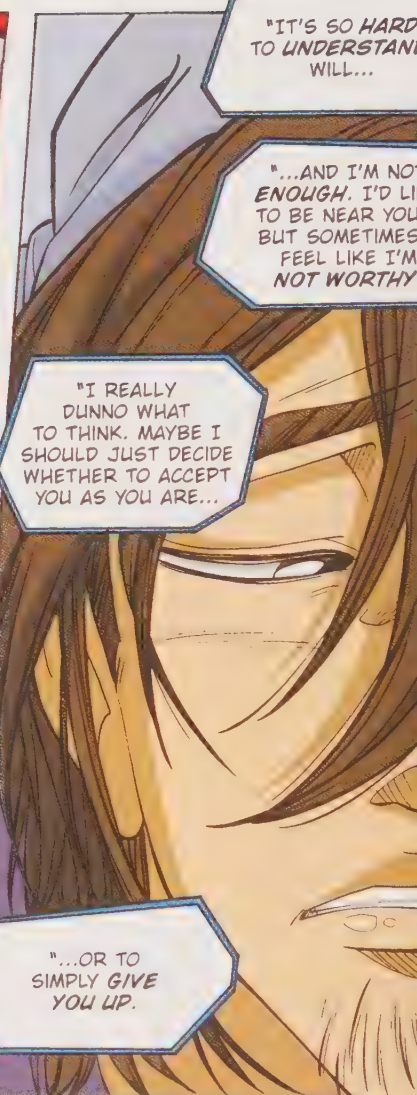
"...AND I'M NOT
ENOUGH. I'D LIKE
TO BE NEAR YOU
WITHOUT MAKING
YOU SUFFER!

"MAYBE I COULD
FREE YOU FROM
THIS TORMENT. I'D
JUST HAVE TO GIVE
UP THE HEART OF
KANDRAKAR...

"MAYBE I'D
JUST HAVE TO
GIVE UP TRYING TO
UNDERSTAND.



"BUT I LOVE YOU,
MATT, AND I WISH I
WAS ABLE TO TELL
YOU HOW I FEEL."

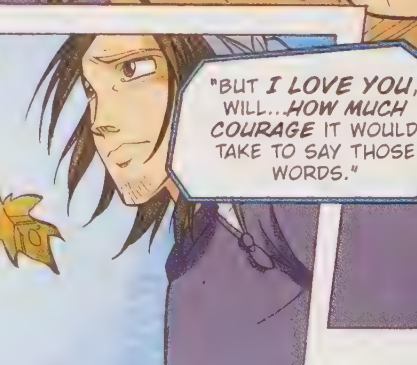


"IT'S SO HARD
TO UNDERSTAND
WILL....

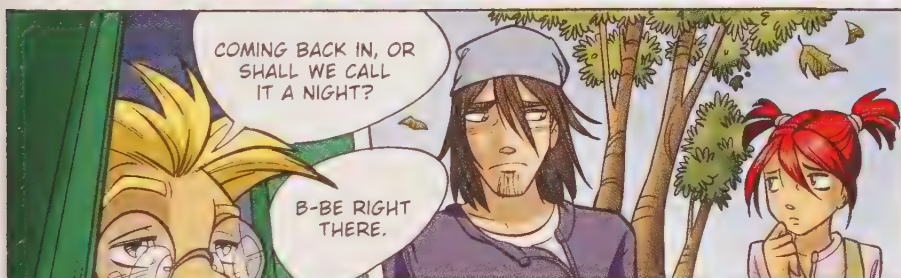
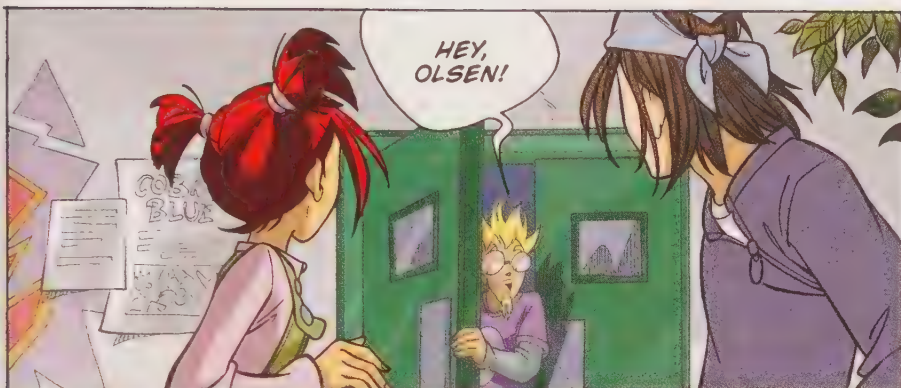
"...AND I'M NOT
ENOUGH. I'D LIKE
TO BE NEAR YOU
BUT SOMETIMES
FEEL LIKE I'M
NOT WORTHY.

"I REALLY
DUNNO WHAT
TO THINK. MAYBE I
SHOULD JUST DECIDE
WHETHER TO ACCEPT
YOU AS YOU ARE...

"...OR TO
SIMPLY GIVE
YOU UP.



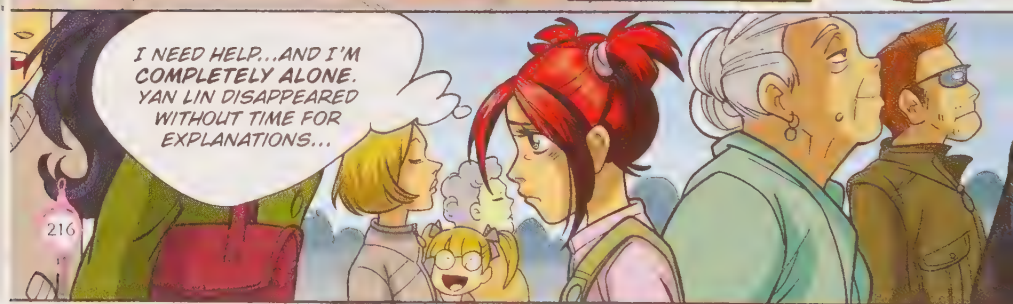
"BUT I LOVE YOU,
WILL...HOW MUCH
COURAGE IT WOULD
TAKE TO SAY THOSE
WORDS."





"I GOTTA GO"...
SO WE ONCE AGAIN
POSTPONED THE
MOMENT WHEN WE
FINALLY CLEARED
THINGS UP.

I'M
SUFFERING
TOO, MATT. I
HAVE A TANGLE
OF FEELINGS
STUCK IN MY
STOMACH.



I NEED HELP...AND I'M
COMPLETELY ALONE.
YAN LIN DISAPPEARED
WITHOUT TIME FOR
EXPLANATIONS...

...AND FOR A WHILE NOW,
ME AND THE OTHERS ARE
LIKE...ISLANDS, LOST
IN A SEA OF PRIDE
AND MISTRUST.

WHAT DOES IT
ALL MEAN? WHY IS
IT HAPPENING
TO US?

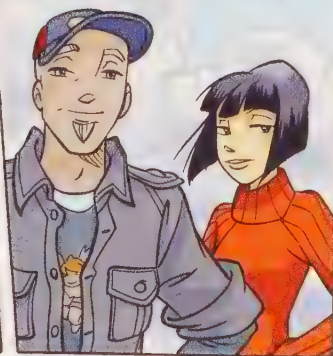
IT'S SO WEIRD.
SOMETIMES THINGS
HAPPEN THAT
ARE LIKE HUGE
QUESTIONS...

...BUT
SOONER
LATER, THE
ANSWERS
WILL

THIS VOICE! I...
I KNOW IT!
WHERE HAVE
I HEARD IT
BEFORE?

BUT MORE
IMPORTANTLY...
HOW DID HE
READ MY
THOUGHTS?

THE ANSWER IS IN
FRONT OF YOU, WILL.
UNEXPECTED AND
SHOCKING.

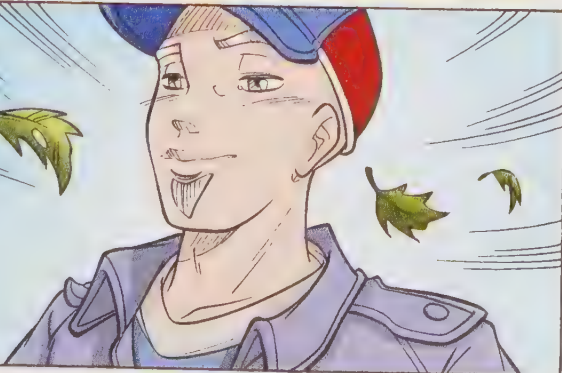


IT'S ONLY THE FIRST
ANSWER TO THE
QUESTIONS YOU AND
THE OTHERS ASKED
IN KANDRAKAR
THE DAY OF THE
DISPUTE...

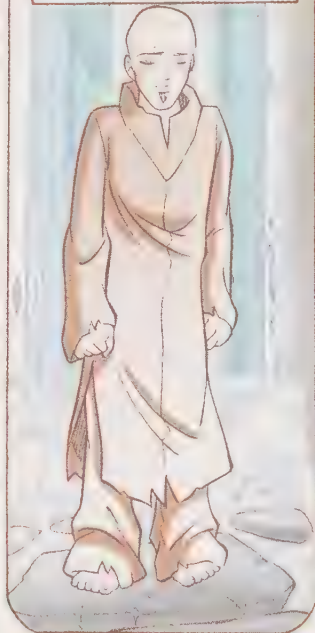
...QUESTIONS
THAT HAVE
SO FAR BEEN
UNANSWERED!

*IT HAPPENED IN
W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 37

DO YOU RECOGNIZE
HIM? THOSE MAGNETIC
EYES, HIS PALE SKIN
AND AUSTERE, SOLEMN
STANCE, DESPITE HIS
EARTHLY CLOTHES!



THE PAINFUL MEMORY
OF THE TORMENTS HE
ENDURED SLICES THROUGH
YOU...SUFFERING THAT
W.I.T.C.H. BOTH CAUSED
AND WITNESSED...

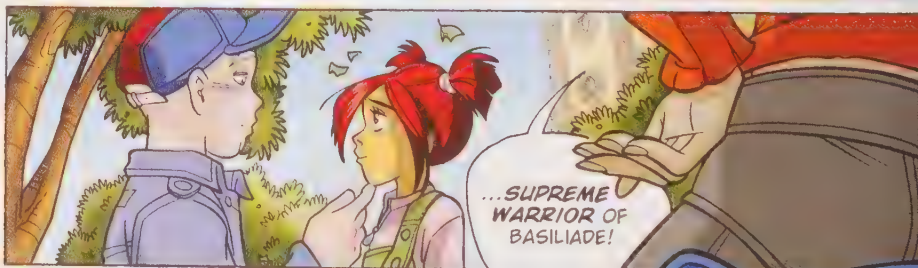


...AND YOUR VOICE
BREAKS WITH EMOTION
AS YOU ADDRESS HIM,
BOWING YOUR HEAD
IN RESPECT...



S-SIR...

YOU CAN
CALL ME
HIMERISH
NOW...



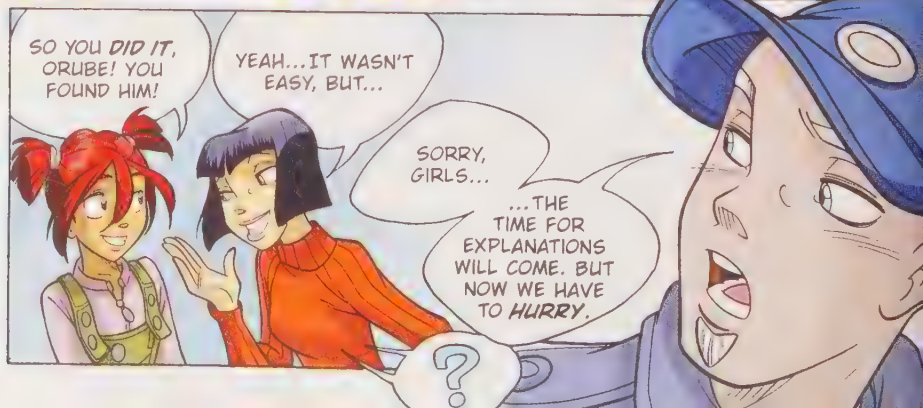
...SUPREME
WARRIOR OF
BASILIADE!

SO YOU DID IT,
ORUBE! YOU
FOUND HIM!

YEAH...IT WASN'T
EASY, BUT...

SORRY,
GIRLS...

...THE
TIME FOR
EXPLANATIONS
WILL COME. BUT
NOW WE HAVE
TO HURRY.



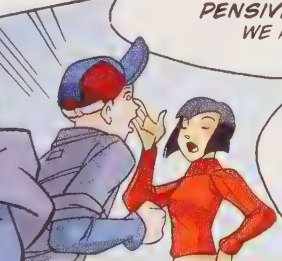


WE HAVE TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE OF THE PERIOD
OF **MAGICAL FASTING**
ENDARNO HAS TO UNDERGO
BEFORE HIS INVESTITURE
AS ORACLE...

...AND OUR
TOP PRIORITY IS
RECOVERING THE CROWN
OF LIGHT, WITHOUT WHICH
WE HAVE NO HOPE OF
FREEING ELYON.



WOW, SO
DECISIVE! WHAT
HAPPENED TO THE
PENSIVE ORACLE
WE KNEW?



ORUBE
MUST'VE TOLD
HIM EVERYTHING...
BUT SEEING HIM SO
ENERGETIC AND
DETERMINED IS
STILL QUITE A
SHOCK!

...ARE
YOU **READY,**
WILL?



HUH? S-SURE!
WE GOTTA **WARN**
THE OTHERS **RIGHT**
AWAY!

NOT THIS TIME.
IT WILL BE ONLY
THE **THREE**
OF US.

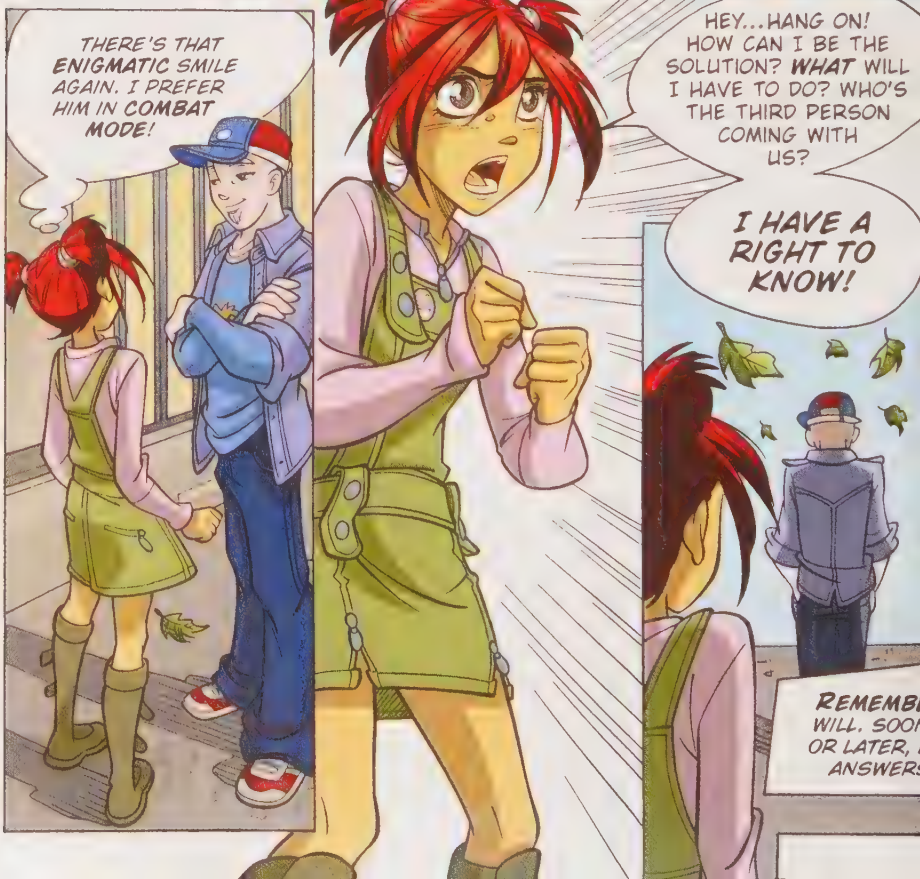
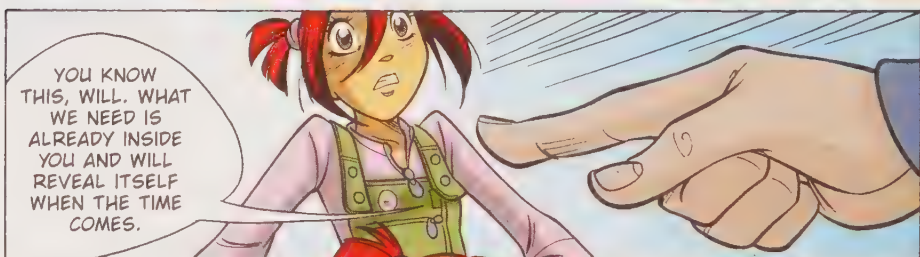
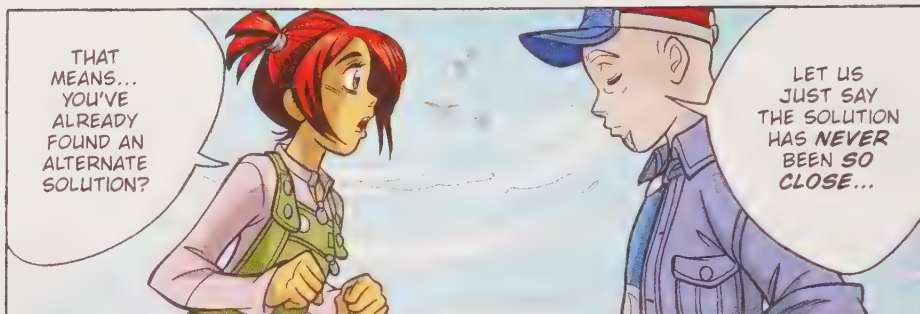


AND LOOKS
LIKE **NUMBER**
THREE ISN'T
ORUBE.

BUT...THAT'S
CRAZY! THE SPELL
PROTECTING THE
CASE CAN'T EVEN
BE BROKEN BY
THE POWERS
OF ALL FIVE
W.I.T.C.H.
TOGETHER!

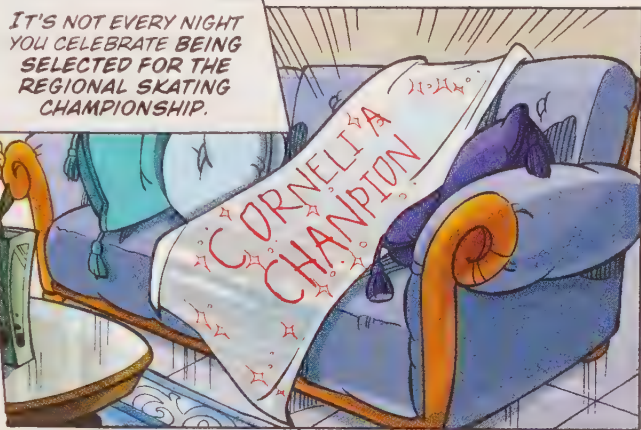


I
KNOW.

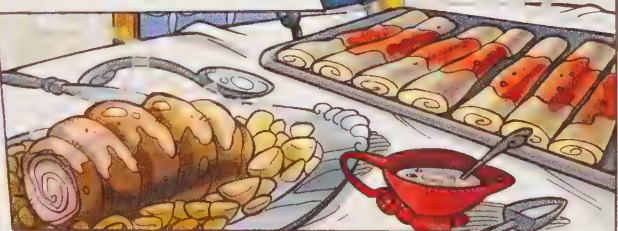


GARDEN PLAZA.
DINNERTIME.

IT'S NOT EVERY NIGHT
YOU CELEBRATE BEING
SELECTED FOR THE
REGIONAL SKATING
CHAMPIONSHIP.

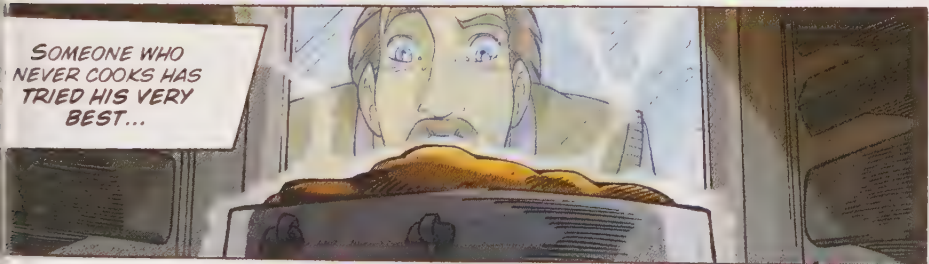


THEY'RE GOING
ALL OUT AT THE
HALE RESIDENCE
FOR THE OCCASION.



221

SOMEONE WHO
NEVER COOKS HAS
TRIED HIS VERY
BEST...



BUT FOR EVERYTHING
TO BE PERFECT,
THERE'S STILL ONE
DETAIL MISSING...

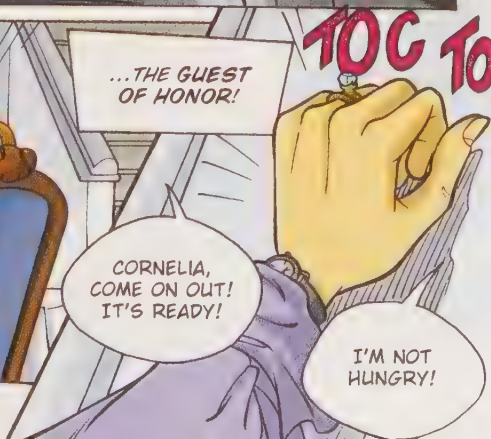


...THE GUEST
OF HONOR!

TOC TOC

CORNELIA,
COME ON OUT!
IT'S READY!

I'M NOT
HUNGRY!



I COOKED ALL YOUR
FAVORITES! A **CHAMPION**
NEEDS HER ENERGY!

COME ON, LILIAN
DIDN'T MEAN TO!
SHE JUST WANTED
TO SURPRISE
YOU!

YOU'LL SEE. WE'LL
FIND SOME EVEN
NICER FABRIC
FOR....

**LEAVE ME
ALONE!**

222

WHAT DO I CARE IF
THAT **LITTLE MONSTER**
USED THE FABRIC FOR
MY NEW SKIRT AS
A BANNER?

!

BWAAAAH!
SHE CALLED
ME **LITTLE**
MOONSTER!

THEN WHAT'S
THE PROBLEM?
SOMETIMES I
REALLY DON'T
GET YOU!

HAROLD, YOU
TALK TO HER.
I GIVE UP!

OOF. I'M SPOILING
EVERYTHING! MY
BAD MOOD ISN'T
THEIR FAULT.

IT'S JUST...
I DON'T FEEL I CAN
BE TRULY HAPPY...IT'S
LIKE SOMETHING'S
MISSING!

CORNY...

...I'M SO
SORRY FOR THE
FABRIC...

LILIAN...
YOU STILL
HERE?

I'M SORRY,
ADORABLE LITTLE
KLUTZ.

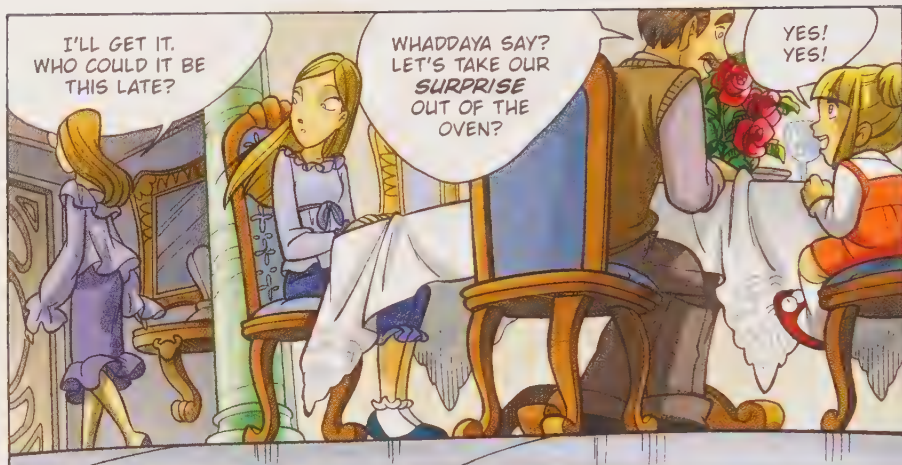
SMACK

I APOLOGIZE.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
GOT INTO ME. MAYBE
IT'S NERVES...

SO...
WHAT'S FOR
DINNER?

MOM PULLED OUT
ALL THE STOPS
TONIGHT AND...

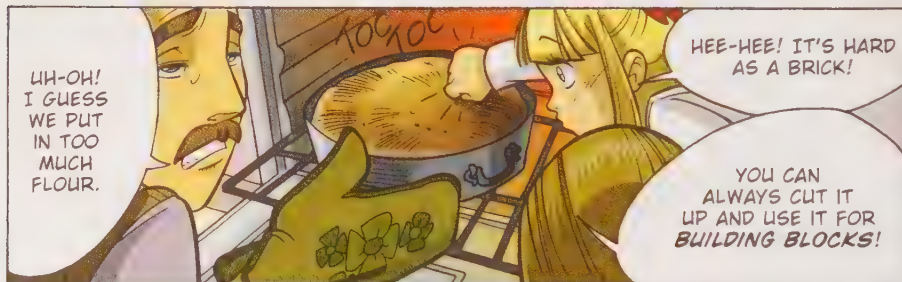
BREIIP



I'LL GET IT.
WHO COULD IT BE
THIS LATE?

WHADDAYA SAY?
LET'S TAKE OUR
SURPRISE
OUT OF THE
OVEN?

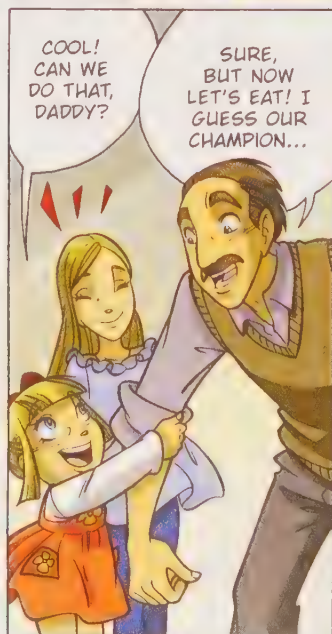
YES!
YES!



UH-OH!
I GUESS
WE PUT
IN TOO
MUCH
FLOUR.

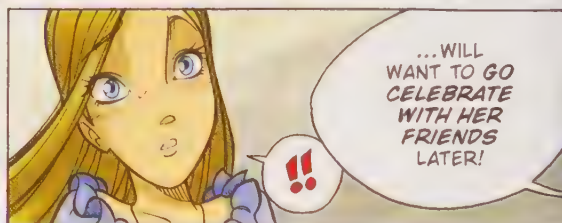
HEE-HEE! IT'S HARD
AS A BRICK!

YOU CAN
ALWAYS CUT IT
UP AND USE IT FOR
BUILDING BLOCKS!



COOL!
CAN WE
DO THAT,
DADDY?

SURE,
BUT NOW
LET'S EAT! I
GUESS OUR
CHAMPION...

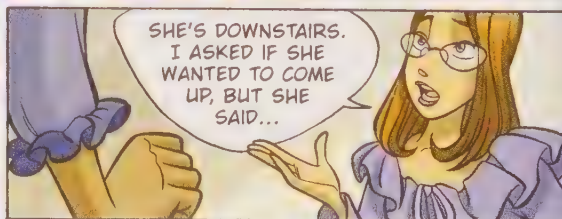


...WILL
WANT TO GO
CELEBRATE
WITH HER
FRIENDS
LATER!

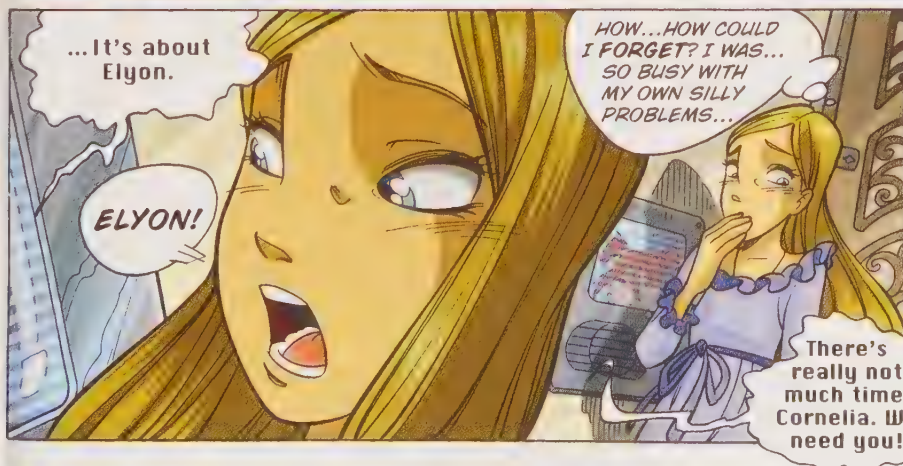
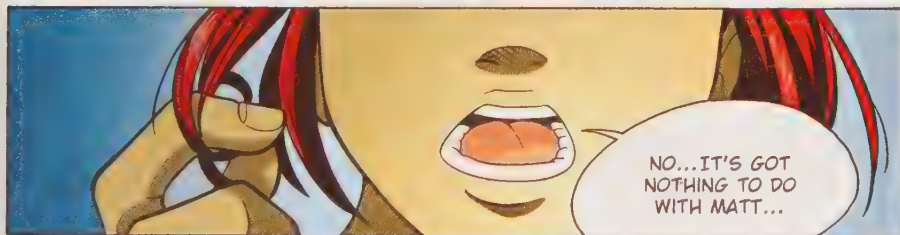
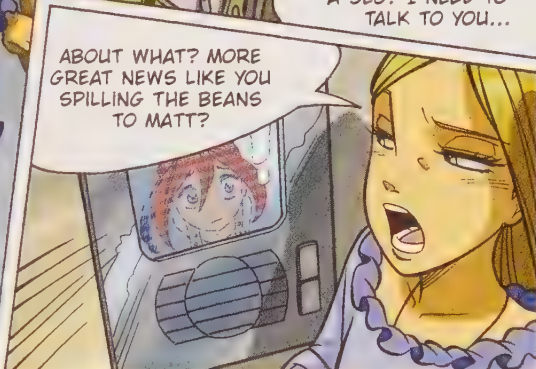
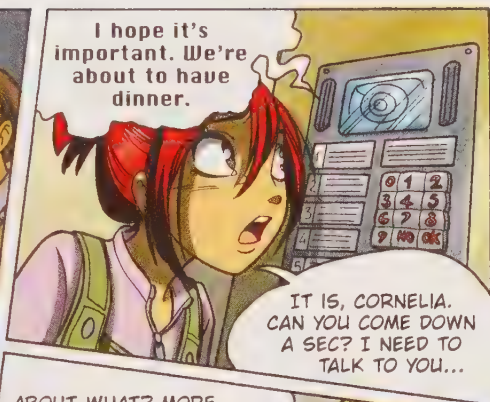
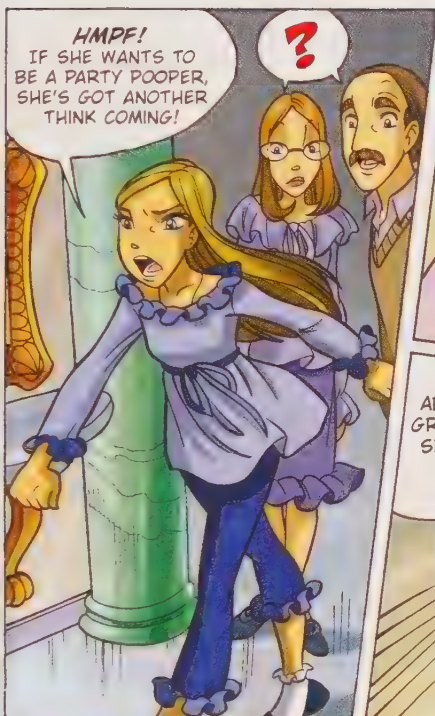


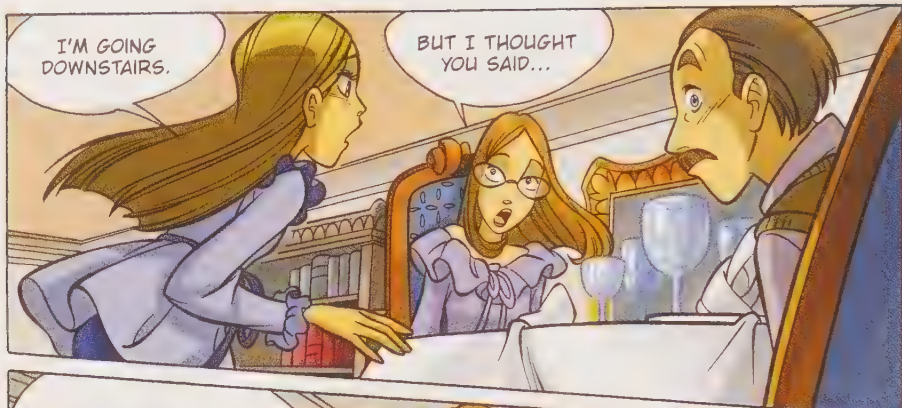
I DON'T HAVE
FRIENDS ANY-
MORE.

WHAT'S
WILL, THEN?



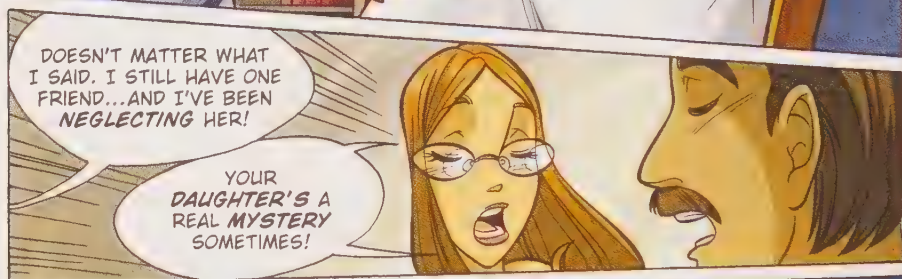
SHE'S DOWNSTAIRS.
I ASKED IF SHE
WANTED TO COME
UP, BUT SHE
SAID...





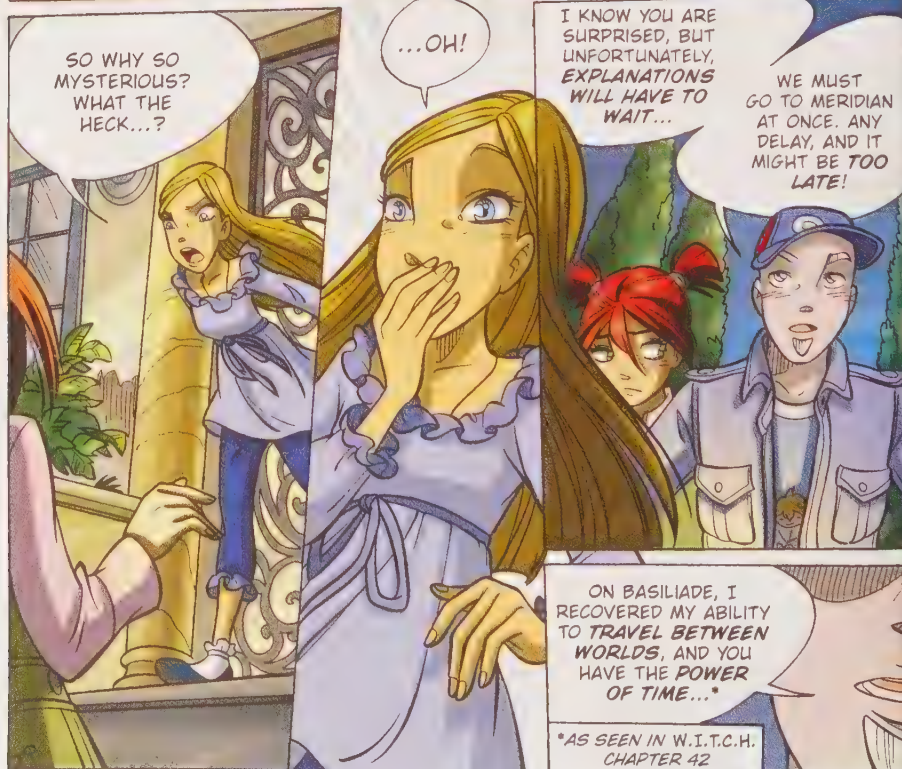
I'M GOING
DOWNSTAIRS.

BUT I THOUGHT
YOU SAID...



DOESN'T MATTER WHAT
I SAID. I STILL HAVE ONE
FRIEND...AND I'VE BEEN
NEGLECTING HER!

YOUR
DAUGHTER'S A
REAL MYSTERY
SOMETIMES!



SO WHY SO
MYSTERIOUS?
WHAT THE
HECK...?

...OH!

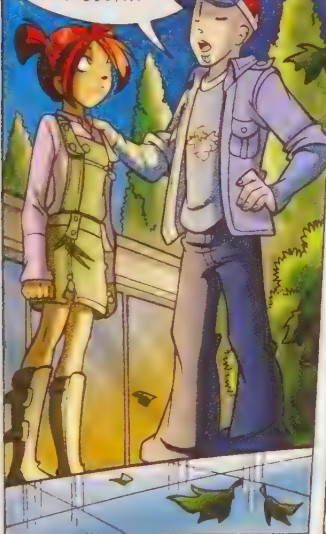
I KNOW YOU ARE
SURPRISED, BUT
UNFORTUNATELY,
EXPLANATIONS
WILL HAVE TO
WAIT...

WE MUST
GO TO MERIDIAN
AT ONCE. ANY
DELAY, AND IT
MIGHT BE TOO
LATE!

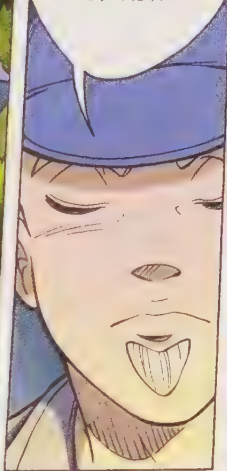
ON BASILADE, I
RECOVERED MY ABILITY
TO TRAVEL BETWEEN
WORLDS, AND YOU
HAVE THE POWER
OF TIME...*

*AS SEEN IN W.I.T.C.H.
CHAPTER 42

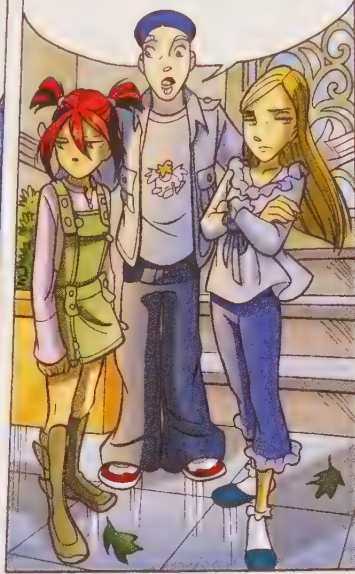
...WHILE WILL IS THE CUSTODIAN
OF THE HEART OF KANDRAKAR...
AND OF AN **UNEXPECTED**
FORCE THAT HAS YET TO
REVEAL
ITSELF...



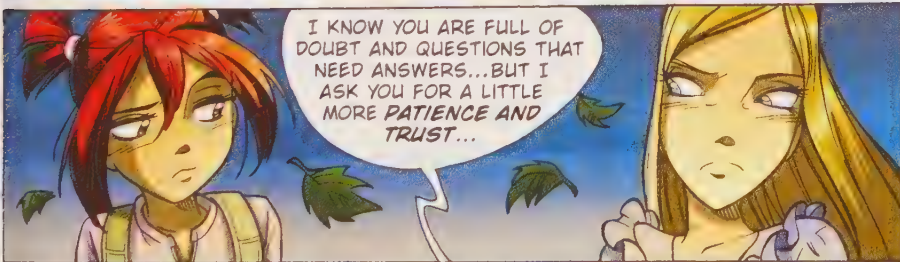
...TOGETHER
WE HAVE
THE POWER TO
OPEN THE CASE
CONTAINING
THE CROWN
OF LIGHT.



TOGETHER...
THE THREE OF US!



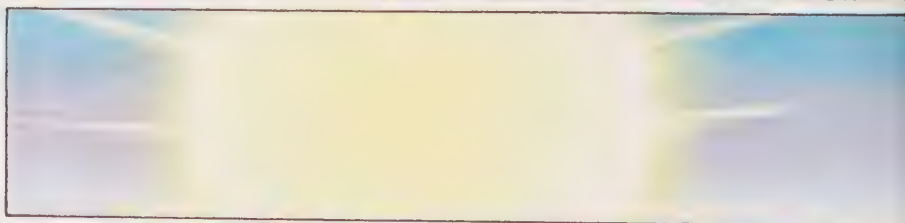
I KNOW YOU ARE FULL OF
DOUBT AND QUESTIONS THAT
NEED ANSWERS...BUT I
ASK YOU FOR A LITTLE
MORE **PATIENCE AND**
TRUST...



...IN ME. IN
YOURSELVES...

...AND MOST
IMPORTANTLY,
IN **ONE**
ANOTHER!



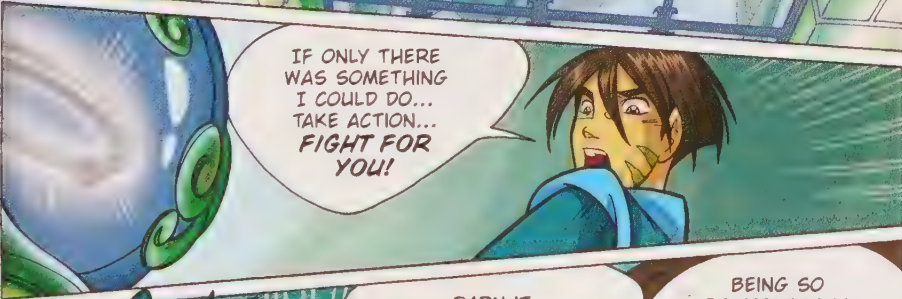




ANOTHER DAY
OF MERIDIAN
WITHOUT ITS
QUEEN...



EVEN THE SUN
SEEMS TO SHINE LESS
BRIGHTLY SINCE YOU
LEFT, ELYON.



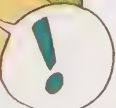
IF ONLY THERE
WAS SOMETHING
I COULD DO...
TAKE ACTION...
**FIGHT FOR
YOU!**

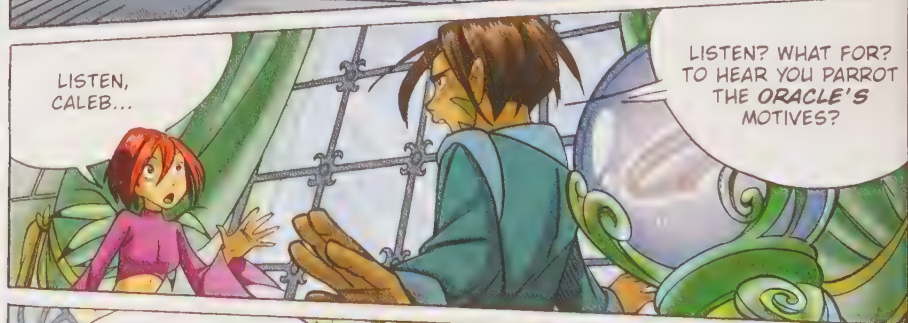
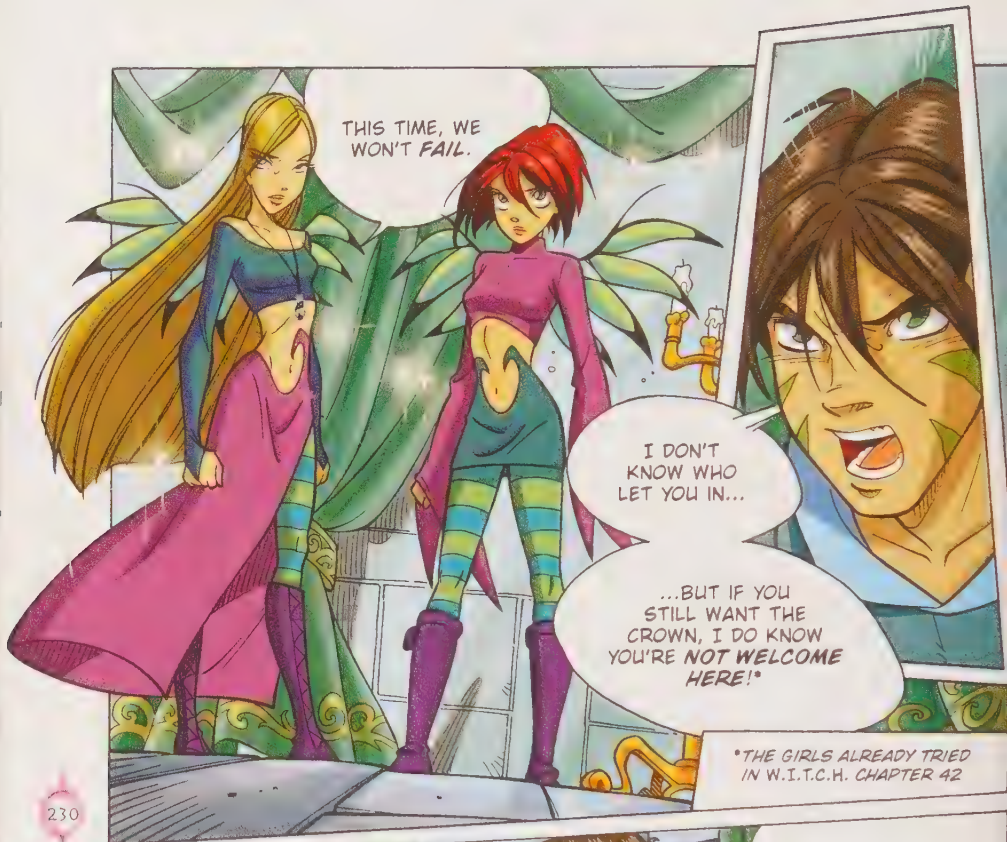


DARN IT.
I'M SICK OF
WAITING!

BEING SO
POWERLESS IS
DRIVING ME *INSANE*.
BUT THE MOMENT
WILL COME
WHEN...

THAT
MOMENT
IS NOW, CALEB.

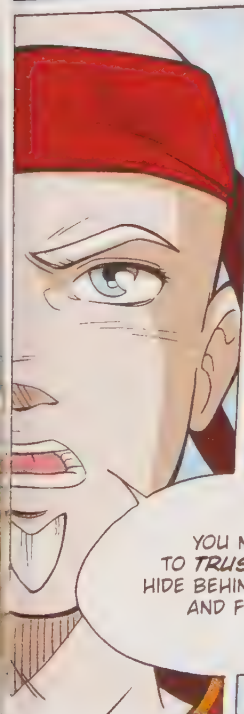




...BUT THINGS ARE
NOT ALWAYS WHAT
THEY SEEM.
YOU SHOULD
KNOW THAT.



OUR PERCEPTIONS
CAN OFTEN BE CLOUDED
BY OUR FEELINGS...



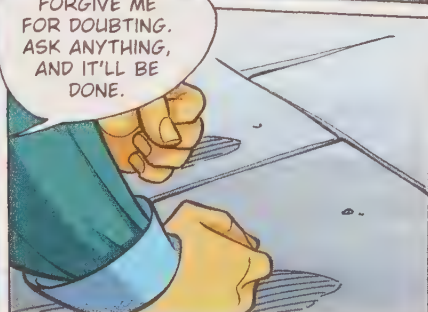
YOU NEED
TO **TRUST**, NOT
HIDE BEHIND ANGER
AND FEAR!



SIR! I...DIDN'T
THINK...I DIDN'T
KNOW...



FORGIVE ME
FOR DOUBTING.
ASK ANYTHING,
AND IT'LL BE
DONE.



YOU KNOW
MY **DEBT OF
GRATITUDE**
TOWARD YOU HAS
NO LIMIT.*

YOU DON'T HAVE
TO APOLOGIZE TO
ME, BUT TO WILL
AND CORNELIA.

NOW GET UP...
AND LET US
NEAR THE
CASE.

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*IN W.I.T.C.H. CHAPTER 18, AFTER
FIGHTING **NERISSA**, A WOUNDED
CALEB WAS SHELTERED IN
KANDRAKAR IN THE **OBLIMINOSE
COSMOS** BY ORDER OF THE
ORACLE, SAVING CALEB'S LIFE.

THE CROWN
IS...**DULL!**
IT'S ALMOST
GONE OUT.

AS IF IT
HAD...
**LOST
ITS
LIGHT!**

EXACTLY...

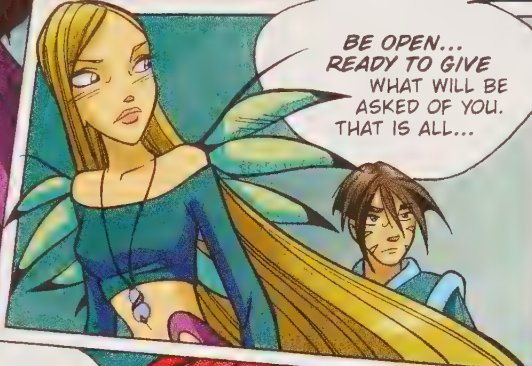
...BUT IT IS
ABOUT TO GET
IT BACK!



IT'S YOUR
MOMENT,
WILL.



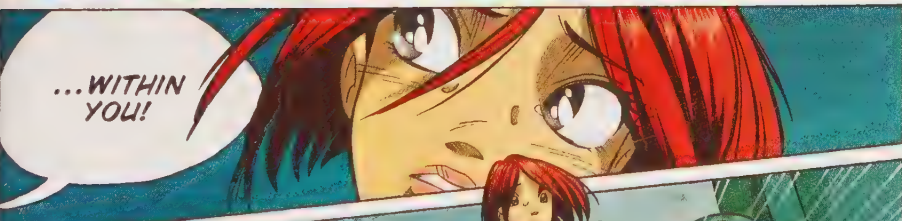
I SEE FEAR
AND CONFUSION
IN YOUR HEART...
BUT DO NOT BE
AFRAID.



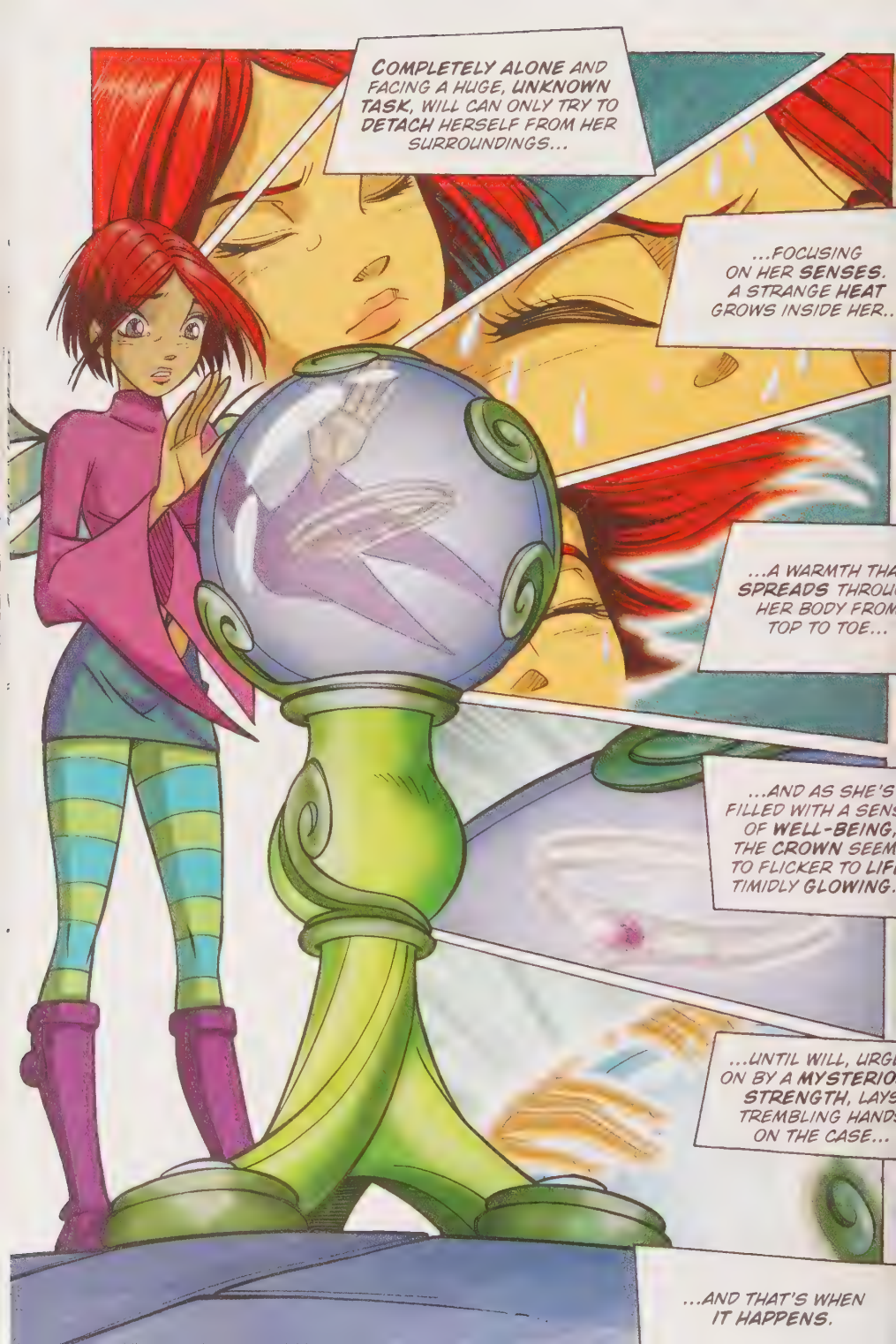
BE OPEN...
READY TO GIVE
WHAT WILL BE
ASKED OF YOU.
THAT IS ALL...



YOU ALREADY
HAVE EVERYTHING
YOU NEED...



...WITHIN
YOU!



COMPLETELY ALONE AND
FACING A HUGE, UNKNOWN
TASK, WILL CAN ONLY TRY TO
DETACH HERSELF FROM HER
SURROUNDINGS...

...FOCUSING
ON HER SENSES.
A STRANGE HEAT
GROWS INSIDE HER...

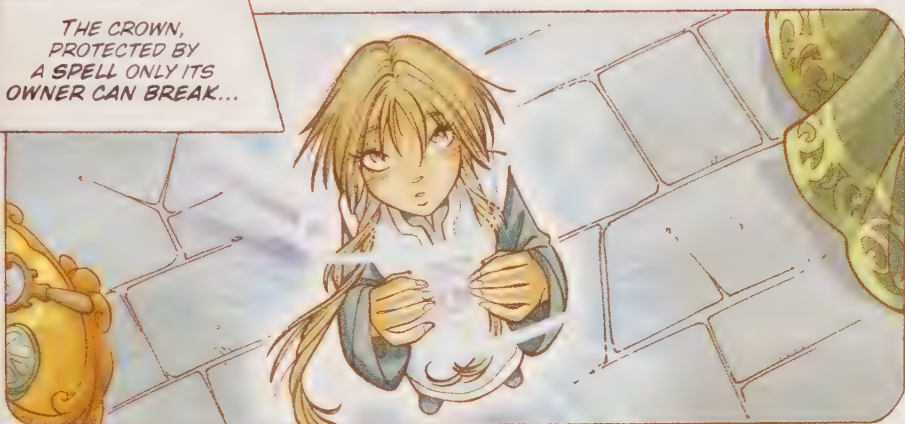
...A WARMTH THAT
SPREADS THROUGH
HER BODY FROM
TOP TO TOE...

...AND AS SHE'S
FILLED WITH A SENSE
OF WELL-BEING,
THE CROWN SEEM
TO FLICKER TO LIFE
TIMIDLY GLOWING.

...UNTIL WILL, URGED
ON BY A MYSTERIOUS
STRENGTH, LAYS
TREMBLING HANDS
ON THE CASE...

...AND THAT'S WHEN
IT HAPPENS.

THE CROWN,
PROTECTED BY
A SPELL ONLY ITS
OWNER CAN BREAK...



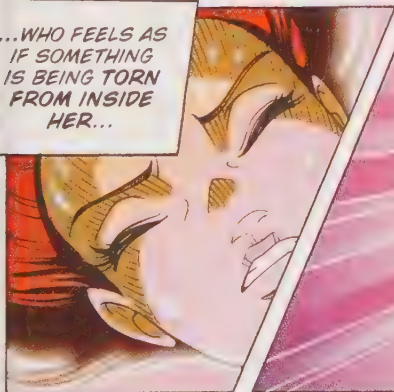
...RECOGNIZES
IN WILL THE
ESSENCE OF
THE QUEEN,
THE LIGHT
OF MERIDIAN
THAT YAN LIN
GAVE HER...

...AND SUMMONS
IT BACK, FIRM AND
DETERMINED!

IT STARTS
RECLAIMING IT,
DRAWING THE
ESSENCE OUT
OF WILL...



...WHO FEELS AS
IF SOMETHING
IS BEING TORN
FROM INSIDE
HER...



...BUT DOESN'T
LET GO!



AS I THOUGHT!
WILL IS RETURNING
ELYON'S POWER TO
THE CROWN...ALL
THE ENERGY SHE
TEMPORARILY
SAFEGUARDED.

THEN...
WILL WAS JUST
A MEANS, A CHANNEL,
A...CONTAINER!
SHE TRANSPORTED
ELYON'S MAGIC OUT
OF THE TOWER
OF MISTS...

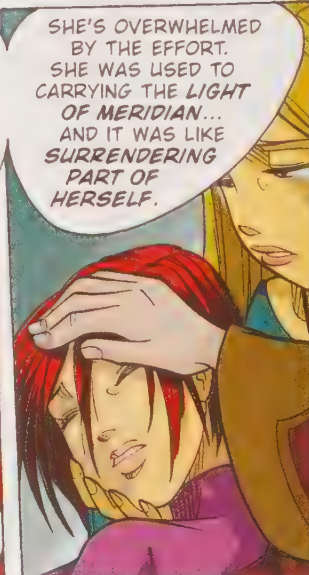
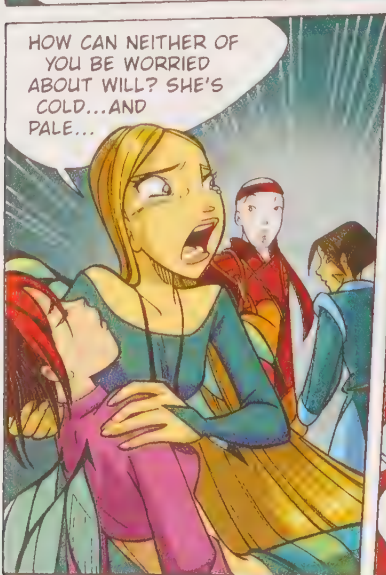
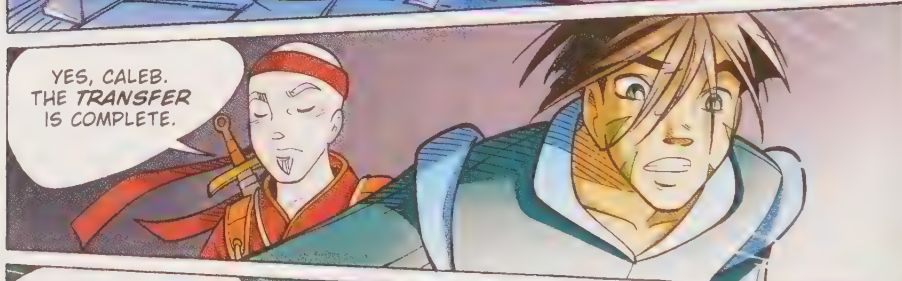
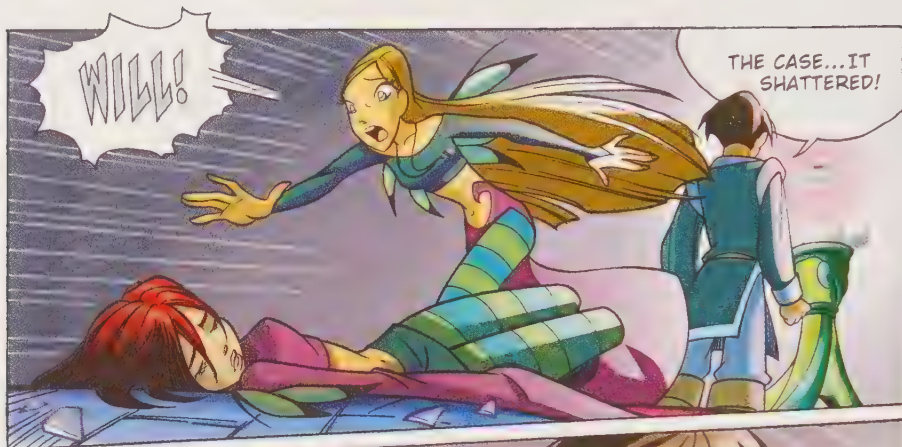
...AND NOW
SHE'S POURING
IT BACK INTO
THE CROWN!

THAT'S
WHAT IT IS...
A TRANSMISSION
OF POWERS OF
WHICH WILL IS THE
INSTRUMENT...

"...BUT WHAT'S GONNA
HAPPEN WHEN ALL OF
ELYON'S MAGICAL LIGHT
HAS FLOWED FROM WILL
INTO THE CROWN?"

CREEEK







SHE'LL RECOVER...
FASTER THAN YOU
CAN IMAGINE.

PERFECT.

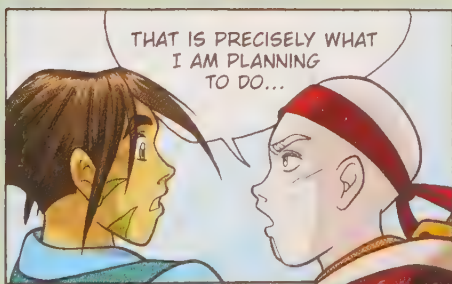
CORNELIA CAN STAY
HERE AT THE PALACE
WAITING FOR WILL
TO WAKE UP...



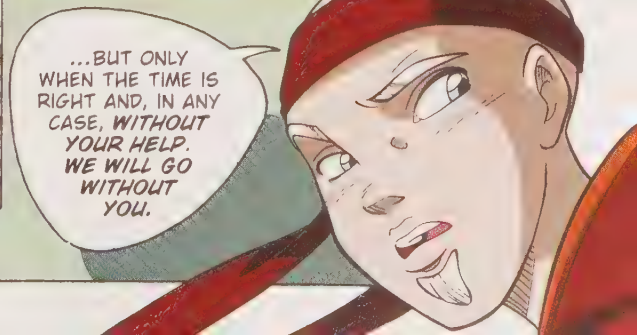
...WHILE **WE** HEAD FOR
KANDRAKAR AT ONCE,
FIND ELYON, AND
GIVE HER BACK
HER CROWN!



THAT IS PRECISELY WHAT
I AM PLANNING
TO DO...



...BUT ONLY
WHEN THE TIME IS
RIGHT AND, IN ANY
CASE, **WITHOUT**
YOUR HELP.
WE WILL GO
WITHOUT
YOU.





WH-WHAT? SIR, ELYON
DESIGNATED ME AS
HER LIEUTENANT,
AND MY DUTY...

YOUR DUTY IS TO
STAY IN MERIDIAN
AS THE QUEEN
REQUESTED,
CALEB.

I KNOW YOU ARE
WORRIED ABOUT HER,
BUT IT IS NOT **THROUGH**
BRAVADO THAT
YOU WILL HELP US
SAVE HER.

REMEMBER—A
MAN'S GREATNESS
ALSO LIES IN
KNOWING HOW TO
MAKE HIMSELF
SMALL AND STEP
ASIDE WHEN
NECESSARY.

THE TASK
AWAITING THE
GUARDIANS IS THE
GREATEST EVER
UNDERTAKEN IN
KANDRAKAR'S
HISTORY.

I AM NOT WORRIED
ABOUT CALEB'S
IMPETUOSITY...EVEN
FREEING ELYON SEEMS
SIMPLE ENOUGH
TO ME...

...COMPARED WITH WHAT WILL
BE THE REAL CHALLENGE
OF THIS
MISSION...

...RESTORING
THE GIRLS'
UNITY!

THE SINGLE
PIECES BY
THEMSELVES
ARE NOT VERY
USEFUL...



...BUT WHEN
YOU PUT THEM
TOGETHER,
THEY CAN
WORK
MAGIC!

YEAH, TOGETHER...
BUT WE ENDED UP
SEPARATED...



EACH IN HER OWN
SHELL... EACH WITH
HER OWN REACTION TO
RECENT, SHOCKING
EVENTS...

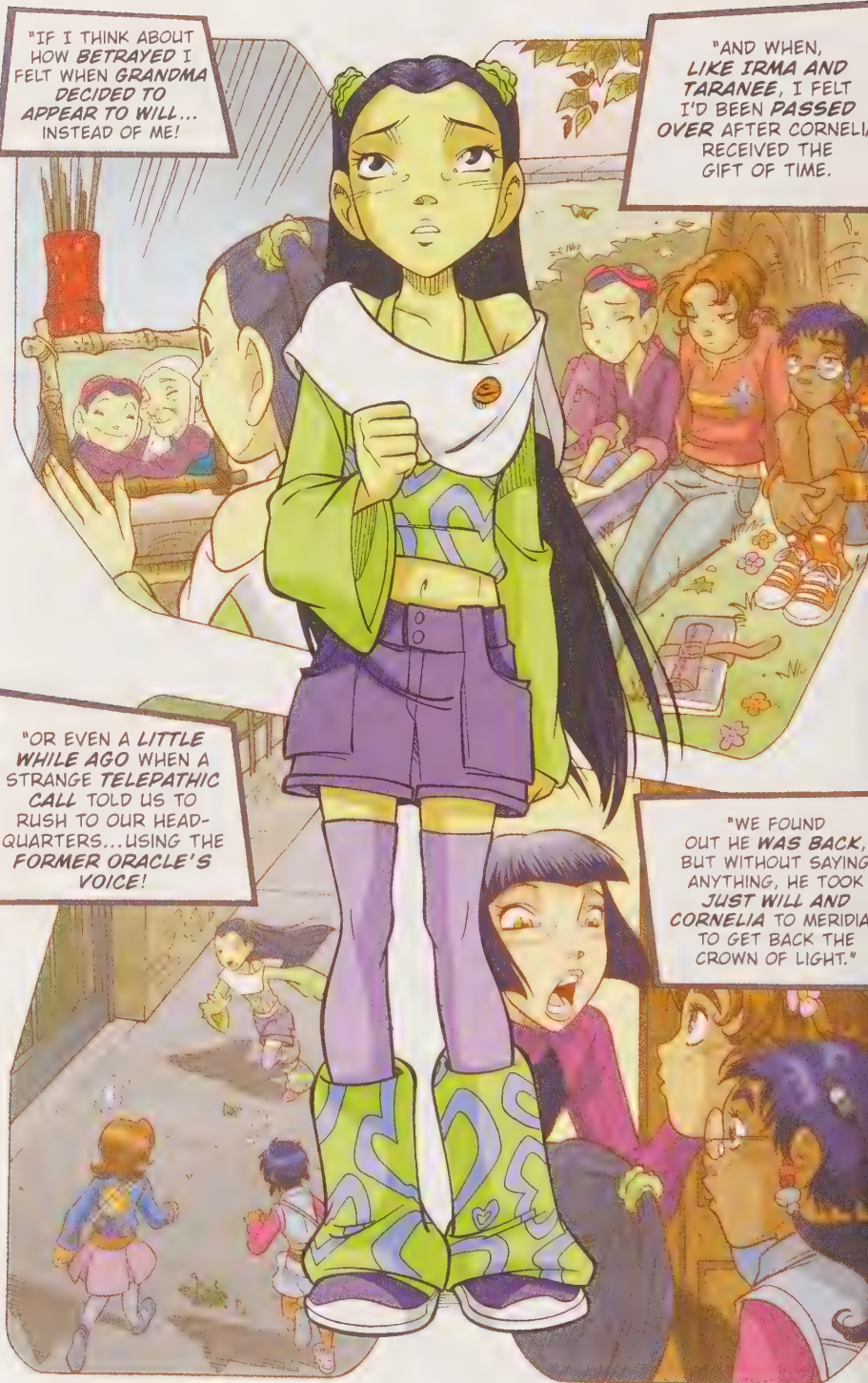
...AND THERE
HAVE BEEN
PLENTY OF
THOSE!

"IF I THINK ABOUT
HOW **BETRAYED** I
FELT WHEN **GRANDMA**
DECIDED TO
APPEAR TO WILL...
INSTEAD OF ME!

"AND WHEN,
LIKE IRMA AND
TARANEE, I FELT
I'D BEEN PASSED
OVER AFTER CORNELIA
RECEIVED THE
GIFT OF TIME.

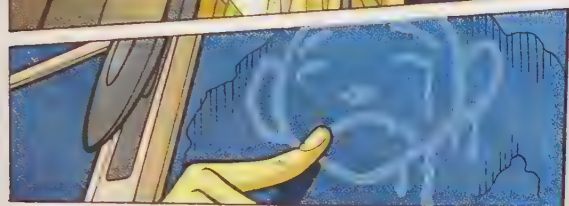
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"OR EVEN A LITTLE
WHILE AGO WHEN A
STRANGE **TELEPATHIC**
CALL TOLD US TO
RUSH TO OUR HEAD-
QUARTERS...USING THE
FORMER ORACLE'S
VOICE!

"WE FOUND
OUT HE **WAS BACK,**
BUT WITHOUT SAYING
ANYTHING, HE TOOK
JUST WILL AND
CORNELIA TO MERIDIA
TO GET BACK THE
CROWN OF LIGHT."



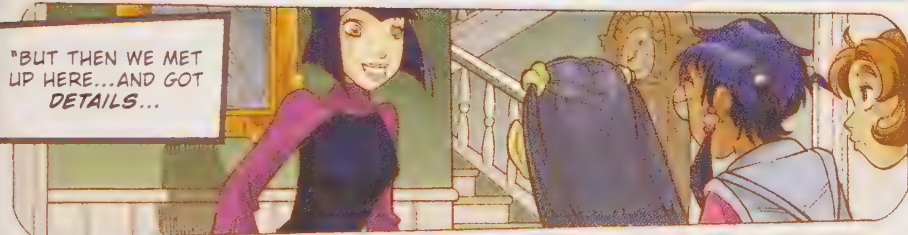


EVEN SOMEONE
WITH THE POWER
OF AIR...

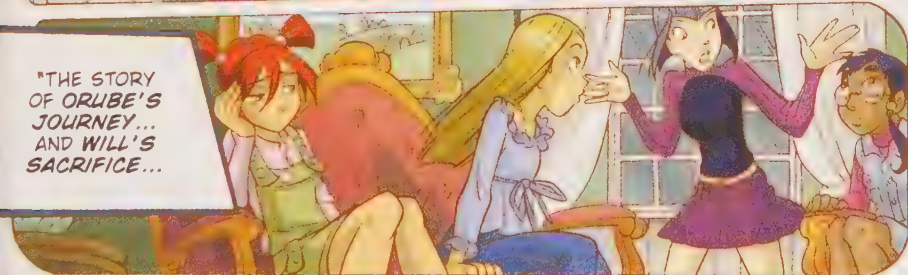


...FEELS LIKE THE
WIND'S BEEN KNOCKED
OUT OF HER SAILS BY
LETDOWNS LIKE
THESE.

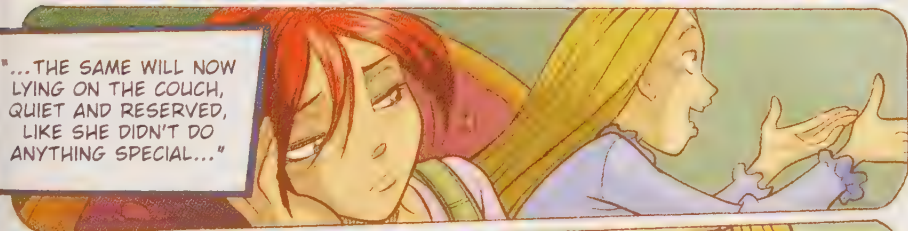
"BUT THEN WE MET
UP HERE...AND GOT
DETAILS..."



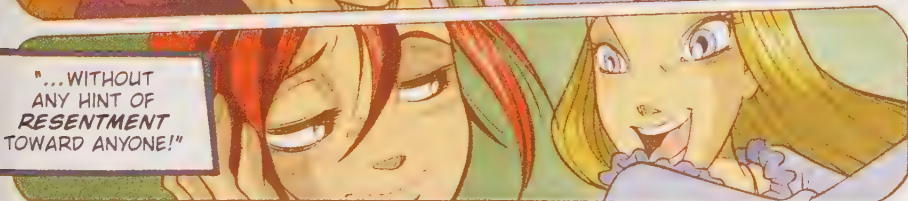
"THE STORY
OF ORUBE'S
JOURNEY...
AND WILL'S
SACRIFICE..."

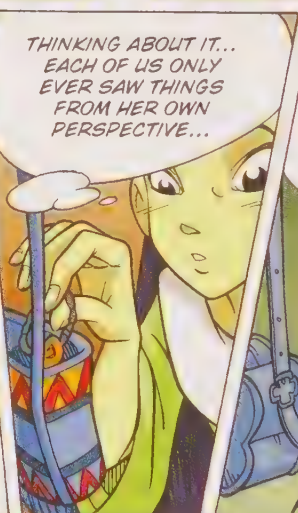
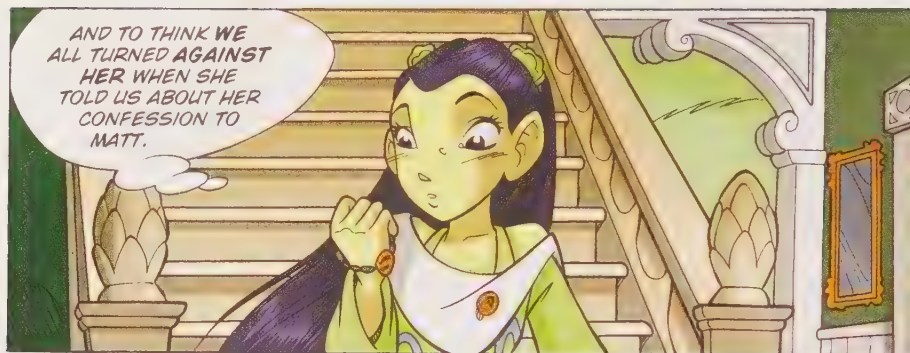


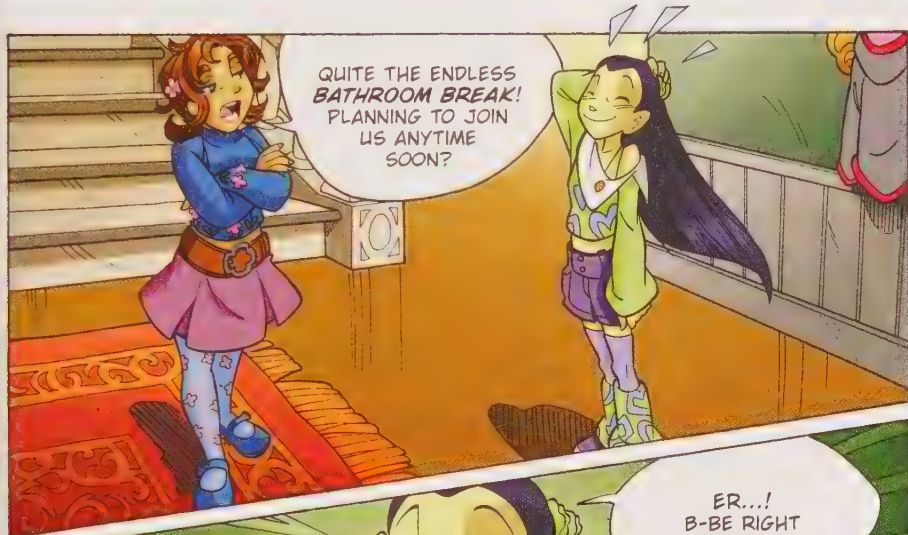
"...THE SAME WILL NOW
LYING ON THE COUCH,
QUIET AND RESERVED,
LIKE SHE DIDN'T DO
ANYTHING SPECIAL..."



"...WITHOUT
ANY HINT OF
RESENTMENT
TOWARD ANYONE!"

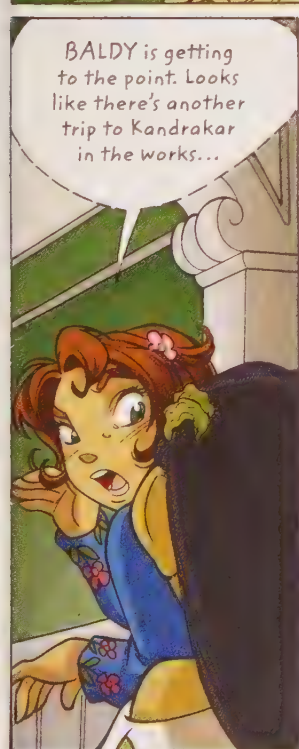






QUITE THE ENDLESS
BATHROOM BREAK!
PLANNING TO JOIN
US ANYTIME
SOON?

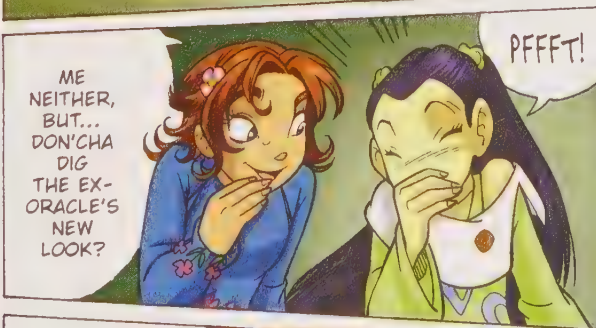
ER...!
B-BE RIGHT
THERE!



BALDY is getting
to the point. Looks
like there's another
trip to Kandrakar
in the works...

...but he says it'll
be the **LAST ONE!**
The plan: return
the crown to
Elyon and deal
with the abusive
Oracle.

Not
really looking
forward to that!



ME
NEITHER,
BUT...
DON'CHA
DIG
THE EX-
ORACLE'S
NEW
LOOK?

PFFFFT!



I MEAN...
IN **JEANS**, HE
SEEMS ALMOST
NORMAL...

"HE LOOKS
A LOT LESS
SERIOUS!"

YOU LOOK
WORRIED,
SIR.

I AM,
ORUBE.

I FEAR THE
MOMENT, VERY SOON,
WHEN I WILL SEND THE
GIRLS ON THEIR
**GREATEST
MISSION.**

246

THERE IS STILL
AN INVISIBLE WALL
BETWEEN THEM.
I CAN SENSE IT...

...BUT MAYBE THE
FIRST SIGNS OF PEACE
ARE BEGINNING TO
BREACH IT!

HEY,
HAY LIN!

HUH?

YOU LOOK SUPER-
NICE WITHOUT
YOUR BRACES.

REALLY?
THANKS!

SOMEONE
NOTICED!
AWESOME!

I CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE ERIC'S
FACE!

THE FACE
OF SOMEONE
SURPRISED,
MAYBE...

...AND
IRMA...

...LIKE
WILL...

...TARANEE...

...AND
CORNELIA...

...MOVED BY
THE SMALL GIFTS
HAY LIN MADE WITH
HER OWN HANDS...

...AND EVEN
MORE BY THE
ACCOMPANYING
NOTE!

Never alone
again!

Hay
Lin

IT'S STILL
DINNERTIME IN
HEATHERFIELD. THE
POWER OF TIME
IS IMPRESSIVE!

HERE
I AM!

THAT WAS *QUICK*,
CHAMP!
EVERYTHING
OKAY?

COME EAT.
IT'S GETTING
COLD...

...AND I'M
HUNGRY!

AND ON THIS *NORMAL*
SATURDAY (BUT NOT
FOR EVERYONE!)...

...THE
SURPRISES
AREN'T OVER
YET!

...BEFORE
THEY START
DINNER!

OOF! PANT!
I JUST HOPE I
GET THERE...

I KNOW ERIC'S
GRANDAD IS NICE...
→PANT← EVEN THOUGH
HE ACTS... →OOF←
GROUCHY...

"...BUT
I ALWAYS
FEEL KIND OF
AWKWARD!"

DEEP
BREATH...

...HERE
GOES!

DIN
DLOM

COMING!

PHEW! ♪
IT'S HIM!
THANK
GOODNESS.

HI,
ERIC!

HAY LIN!
WHAT A
SURPRISE!
WHAT...?

NOTICE
ANYTHING?

HONEY!
WHO'S
THERE?

A FRIEND,
MOM!

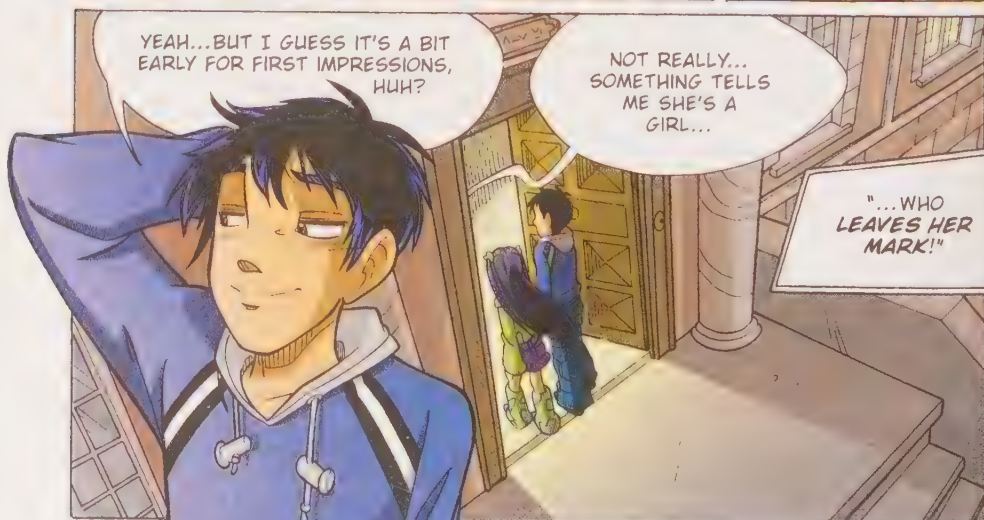
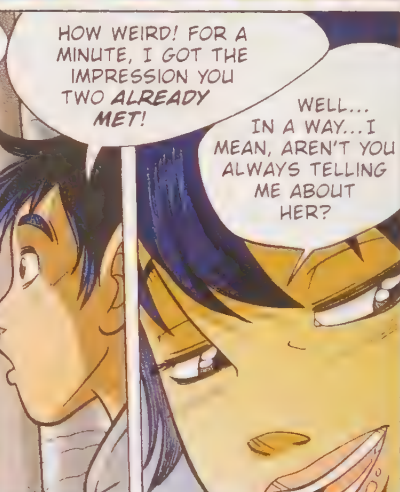
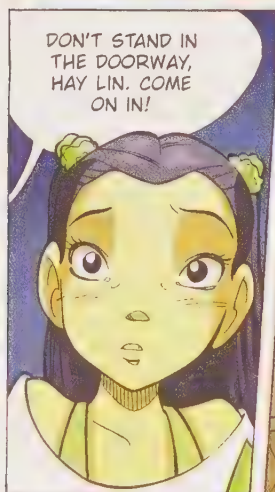
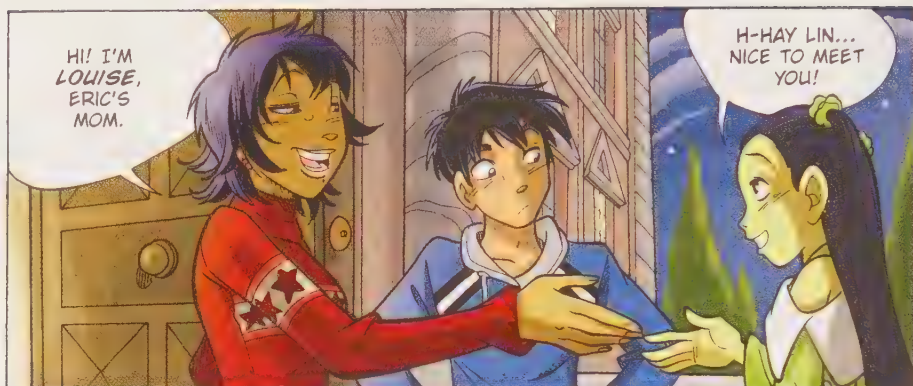
WELL...AS YOU
CAN HEAR, MY
PARENTS
ARE
HERE,
AND...

WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING FOR?
INVITE HER IN!
I CAN'T WAIT
TO MEE—

...AH!

!!

?





Read on in Volume 12!



6

1 Sunglasses: Hay Lin collects them and seldom goes out without a pair. She has nineteen, and her favorites are the aviator-style ones—huge and with super-dark lenses.

2 Her Chinese kimono for traditional celebrations—made of silk and embroidered with flowers. Every girl in Hay Lin's family owns at least one.

3 Hay Lin loves UFOs. She's seen every single movie about aliens. She goes to the movies at least once a month with Irma and other friends.

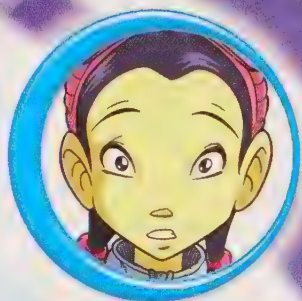
4 Hay Lin is an artist. Everyone says she has a special talent for painting. These are her paintbrushes.

5 A wicker basket for sarongs, scarves, and scrap fabric. Hay enjoys sewing. She's really good at turning old clothes into new dresses and accessories.

6 Hay Lin keeps her leg warmers in these boxes. She uses them often and has them in tons of colors to match her skirts.



Fashion and Creativity with Hay Lin



7 Fake fur maxi-scarf: Hay Lin used it for a school play. Way too flashy to wear offstage!

8 Hay is proud of this dress. She drew the model, and her grandma sewed it. It was her costume for the Halloween party.

9 She is crazy about striped socks. Her mom complains because she has too many, but Hay keeps finding new color combinations.

10 These were a pair of plain winter boots. Colorful fabric paint and glitter turned them into a one-of-a-kind design!

11 The tartan skirt she wore the first time she went to the movies with Eric.

12 Her wardrobe doors were white, but Hay Lin thought it would be nice to spice them up!



Witch Planet

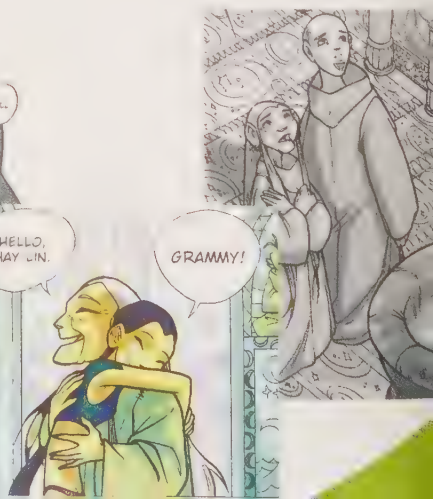
Yan Lin

Former Guardian

When she was young, Yan Lin was a Guardian of Kandrakar along with Nerissa, Kadma, Halinor, and Cassidy. She's the one who gave Will the Heart of Kandrakar, telling W.I.T.C.H. about the fortress and revealing the secrets of their powers. After she fulfilled her duty on Earth, Yan Lin was called back to Kandrakar, where she now sits among the Wise Ones of the Congregation.

A Special Grandma

In Heatherfield as in Kandrakar, Yan Lin is a guide and trusted friend for Hay Lin. The grandma and granddaughter love each other deeply. She's very wise and peaceful. When necessary, Yan Lin can talk to W.I.T.C.H. through their dreams.





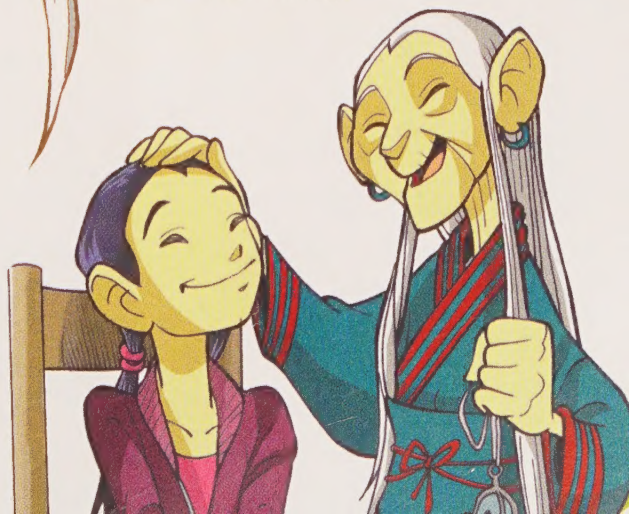
Witch Planet

Yan Lin

Phobos's Prisoner



When, in the guise of Endarno, Phobos sets in motion his plan to assume the Oracle's power, Yan Lin is among the first to suspect that something dangerous is happening in Kandrakar. And when Phobos questions the abilities of the five Guardians, Yan Lin defends W.I.T.C.H. before the Congregation with a moving speech in which she asks the Wise Ones to consider how many times the Guardians have proven their loyalty and courage. She takes the side of the former Oracle, Himerish, becoming one of Phobos's greatest enemies. She'll play a key role in helping Elyon defend the Crown of Light. Once again, Yan Lin proves that she really believes in W.I.T.C.H.'s abilities.





Part IV. Trial of the Oracle • Volume 2



Series Created by Elisabetta Gnone

Comic Art Direction: Alessandro Barbucci, Barbara Canepa

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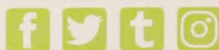
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Bruno

Will

The Oracle Accused!

The new Oracle's ambition is revealed, and he'll stop at nothing to possess Elyon's power! Don't think for an instant, though, that he has forgotten about the Guardians. Biding his time, he has every intention of eliminating them as soon as the opportunity presents itself. The girls may still have some allies, but can they hold it together long enough to recognize their true enemy...?



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